Atlanta and Environs

A Chronicle of Its People and Events

Volume I

Franklin M. Garrett

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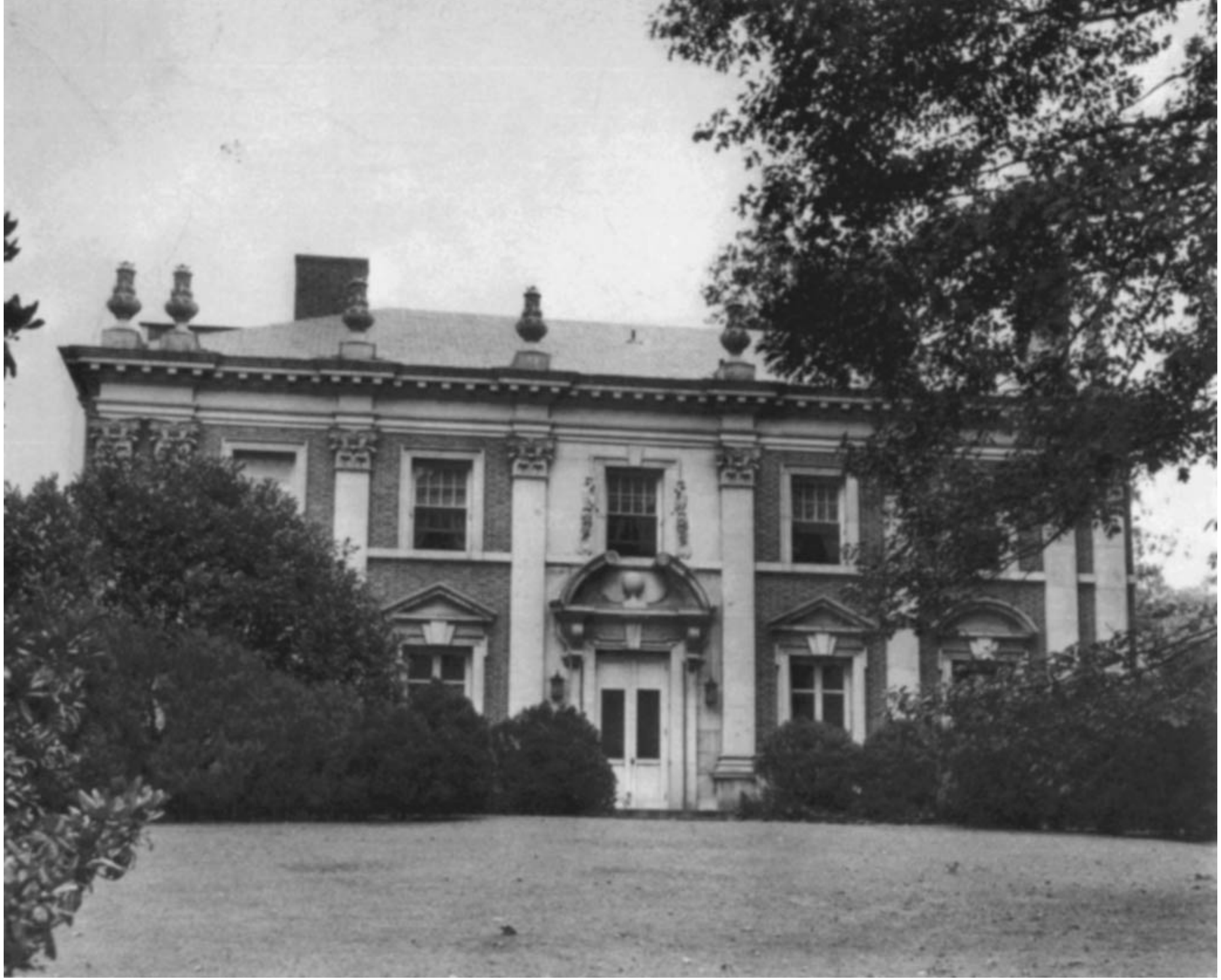

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ATLANTA and ENVIRONS

A Chronicle of Its People and Events

By

FRANKLIN M. GARRETT

VOLUME I

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DEDICATION

In Memory of

WALTER McELREATH

1867-1951

AND

BEVERLY MEANS DUBOSE

1886-1953

Without Whose Friendship, Counsel and Encouragement, the Writing of this History of the Community They Loved So Well, and to Which They Contributed So Much, Would Not Have Been Undertaken.

F. M. G.

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PREFACE

THE preparation of this history of the Atlanta area, primarily Atlanta itself and Fulton and De Kalb counties, is based upon a quarter century of research and some four years' writing time. The undertaking has been arduous, but nevertheless pleasant. It is offered to the people of Greater Atlanta, whose story it is, in the hope that it will illuminate interestingly and authentically, the progress of their community.

No historian, however diligent, can record the complete annals of even a single community. If he uses too small a brush, his picture is obscured by repetitious detail. If he undertakes to paint only in broad strokes, his picture becomes a wide expanse, devoid of the interesting sidelights which bring the activities of human beings into focus. A mere account of the "Captains and the Kings" will not suffice, for they alone do not build nations or cities. Therefore, in the present instance I have made a consistent effort to achieve balance.

To all who have responded to my calls for specific information, and they have been many, I extend sincere thanks. I owe particular appreciation to Miss Ruth Blair, Executive Secretary, Atlanta Historical Society, for reading most of the manuscript and for her helpful suggestions; to Wilbur G. Kurtz, Sr., for invaluable counsel and assistance in connection with the period of The War Between the States; to Wilbur G. Kurtz, Jr., for putting at my disposal his "Notes on the History of De Kalb County," compiled during 1940-1941; to Allen P. Tankersley, for constructive comment and the loan of useful materials, and to Gordon F. Mitchell for his ever-ready willingness in furnishing information about early titles to Atlanta real estate.

I shall always regret that Walter McElreath and Beverly M. DuBose did not live to see the completion of this work. Their interest was deep and sincere. Both read, most carefully, that part of the manuscript completed before their demise—Mr. McElreath through the year 1864; Mr. DuBose through 1899. Their comments and suggestions were encouraging, useful and valuable.

The publishers have been most cooperative and the subscribers exceedingly patient. For both I shall be eternally grateful. I also extend special thanks to the publishers for assuming the tedious and thankless chore of compiling the index.

FRANKLIN MILLER GARRETT.

Atlanta, Georgia,
August 1, 1954.

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> *"Out of monuments, names, words, proverbs, traditions, private records and evidences, fragments of stories, passages of books, and the like, we do save and recover somewhat from the deluge of time."*—Bacon.

Section I

A Brief Prelude to the Coming of the White Man

JAMES MONROE, enunciator of the famous Doctrine, was beginning his second presidential term before that section of Georgia now occupied by Atlanta and environs could be called much except a vast wilderness. That is to say it was a wilderness compared to the white man's civilization then existing in older settled parts of the country.

To be sure the Chattahoochee River flowed inexorably from the mountains to the Gulf as now. But prior to 1821 it was not so muddy and instead of separating states and counties it marked, roughly, a dividing line between two nations of American aborigines or Indians, the Creek Nation and the Cherokee Nation.

Lands of the Creek Indians lay to the south and east of the river, while those of the Cherokees lay to the north and west. However, in common with men of all ages and places since the dawn of recorded history, there were frequent boundary disputes between the two nations, with resultant hard feelings and bloodshed.

The realm of speculation, usually interesting, impels an inquiry. From whence and when came these nations, the Creeks and Cherokees? In the absence of conclusive evidence, documentary or otherwise, the best we can do is speculate.

The Spanish explorer De Soto, traversing this part of the country in 1540, found the Creeks established in the middle and lower part of the State and the Cherokees in what is now North Georgia.[1]

While the Creeks called themselves Muscogees, the English applied the name Creeks because of the propensity of these Indians to live near water courses. More numerous than the Cherokees, they were one of the most powerful tribes in America and there is some slight evidence of their having originally come from Mexico.[2]

The Creeks were considerably less advanced in the arts of civilization than the Cherokees, whose tradition was that they came from the West and supplanted a moon-eyed people who could not see by daylight.[3]

Whatever their origin, or when, the Indians of Georgia were destined to come into contact and conflict with white men and, as a result thereof to lose, piecemeal, all of their lands in this state.

The process of territorial expansion in Georgia, whereby all of the land in the state was acquired from the Indians, took one hundred and two years, that is, from 1733, when the Creeks made a treaty at Savannah with Oglethorpe, to 1835, when the Cherokees ceded the last of their territory in Northwest Georgia.[4]

The process took eighty-eight years, until 1821, to reach the territory now occupied by the City of Atlanta. It will be interesting, therefore, at this point, to trace the various Indian cessions to that time.

May 21, 1733, General Oglethorpe met the head men of the Lower Creek nation at Savannah and entered into an agreement with them by which the whites were to sell certain goods to the Indians at fixed prices and to make restitution to them for any injuries that might be inflicted by the settlers. On the other hand the Indians agreed that the trustees of the colony should have the privilege of settling upon and using the lands which the nation did not want for its own use; pledged themselves to give no encouragement to any other white men to settle there; not to rob or molest the settlers sent by the trustees, and to "keep the talk in their heads as long as the sun shines and water runs."[5]

It will be noted that the above treaty or agreement specified no particular boundaries. Nor did the spirit of amity surrounding this agreement prevail upon the occasion of many later cessions.

August 21, 1739. A confirmatory agreement of that of 1733 and a recognition on the part of other Indian tribes of the Creek claim to all the lands lying between the Savannah and St. Johns rivers and extending west to the Appalachee Bay and the mountains.[6]

November 10, 1763. By treaty negotiated at Augusta, the white men acquired title to a large tract of Creek lands lying between the Savannah and Ogeechee rivers and extending northwest to the Little River, near the present site of Washington, Wilkes County.[7]

June 1, 1773. By treaty made at Augusta with the Creeks and Cherokees both tribes relinquished all claim to two tracks of land. The Creeks ceded lands lying between the Ogeechee and Altamaha rivers while the Cherokees ceded a tract lying northwest of the cession of 1763 and extending to a line now approximately marked by the southern boundaries of Hall and Banks counties.[8] No further cession was made to the British, the next, in 1783 coming after the Independence of the American Colonies.

The cession of 1773 was thrown open to settlement by the state authorities of Georgia in 1777 during the Revolutionary War and was called Wilkes County. Before the war began it was an unsettled wilderness but the Virginians and Carolinians soon swarmed in. Out of it a dozen counties have been carved and by 1790, when the first United States census was taken it held a population of 31,000.[9] The character and origin of these settlers set a pattern for the Atlanta area nearly fifty years later.

Among the towns now located in the cession of 1773 are Hartwell, Danielsville, Elberton, Lincolnton, Thomson, Warrenton, Washington, Waynesboro, Louisville and Sylvania.[10]

August 7, 1790. The next important cession was concluded on this date between Alexander McGillivray and the head men of the Creeks, and Henry Knox, then Secretary of War, acting as sole commissioner for the United States.

By this treaty the boundary line between the Creeks and the whites was clearly defined. The line as set forth in the treaty is technical and is difficult for the present day reader to comprehend. However it can be very nearly described as a line drawn from the northeast corner of the state and running in a southwesterly direction to the source of the main branch of the Oconee River, thence down that stream and the Altamaha to a point near old Fort

Barrington on the latter stream, thence again in a southwesterly direction to the St. Mary's River at Trader's Hill. The Creeks relinquished all titles to lands east of this line.[11]

Present-day towns in the confines of the cession of 1790 are Carnesville, Homer, Jefferson, Athens, Watkinsville, Greensboro, Sparta, Sandersville, Wrightsville, Swainsboro, Statesboro, Reidsville and others.[12] Some of this territory, particularly that part which became Franklin County, was to furnish many of the original settlers of De Kalb County and the Atlanta area three decades hence.

June 16, 1802. This time the Creeks ceded two tracts of land. The larger lay west of the Oconee River and embraces all or part of the counties of Morgan, Putnam, Baldwin, Wilkinson, Laurens and Jones,[13] and includes, among others, the present towns of Madison, Eatonton, Milledgeville, Irwinton and Dublin.[14] The other was a long narrow tract south of the Altamaha River and running from north to south immediately west of the counties of McIntosh, Glynn and Camden.[15]

At the time of this cession the United States Government made an agreement with Georgia to the effect that all Indian titles within the territory of the state would be extinguished as soon as it should become practicable.[16] This vague definition of time came to be a continuing source of harassment to the Federal government. The people of Georgia were both vehement and unrelenting in their demands that all Indian titles be extinguished without delay. Even so, the process took thirty-three more years.

October 24, 1804. The treaty of this date was concluded at the Tellico Garrison in the Cherokee country, by which that tribe ceded a tract four miles wide, southwest of the line established by the treaty of 1790, to include what was known as "Wafford's Settlement". It is mostly in Hall and Habersham counties and is still known as the "Four-Mile Purchase".[17] North and south it extends from the approximate present day locations of Clarkesville to Gainesville.[18]

November 14, 1805. The Creeks ceded title to all their lands lying between the Oconee and and Ocmulgee rivers, reserving a small tract, three by five miles on the east side of the Ocmulgee, upon which they granted the government the privilege of erecting a military post (Fort Hawkins). The land in this cession is now included in the counties of Baldwin, Wilkinson, Jones, Morgan, Jasper, Putnam, Twiggs, Pulaski, Telfair and Montgomery.[19] Some present-day towns in the area include Monticello, Clinton, Jeffersonville, Eastman and McRae.[20]

No further cessions were gained until after the War of 1812. Indeed with the coming of hostilities with England all efforts in the direction of Indian cessions were to no avail. The British, through Chief Tecumseh, aroused the Indians against the frontier settlements from Canada to Florida. Murders and depredations followed until General Andrew Jackson ended the Indian troubles in the south by treaty at Fort Jackson, Alabama, in 1814.[21]

August 9, 1814. By this treaty, with the United States represented in the person of the redoubtable General Jackson, the Creeks ceded the entire southwest portion of Georgia and much of lower Alabama. In Georgia the cession amounted to everything south of a line drawn west from Jesup to Fort Gaines and extending from the cession of 1802 to the Chattahoochee River.[22] The negotiations at Fort Jackson opened the door again to subsequent cessions.

July 8, 1817. The Cherokees ceded an irregular shaped tract of land lying around the Wafford's settlement. It is located in the present counties of White, Lumpkin, Dawson, Forsyth and Cherokee.[23] Both Gainesville and Clarkesville are in this area.[24]

January 22, 1818. Two cessions were made by the Creeks at this time. By the first they relinquished their title to a previously retained tract lying south of the Ocmulgee and Altamaha rivers. It embraces the larger part of Appling, Coffee and Irwin counties and includes the present towns of Irwinville and Baxley.[25]

The other is of especial interest here because much of the land involved is in the present environs of Atlanta. The line bounding this cession began at the High Shoals on the Appalachee River; ran along the High Tower path to the Shallowford on the Chattahoochee River; thence up the east bank of the Chattahoochee to Suwannee Old Town; thence by a direct line to the head of Appalachee, then down the same to the beginning at High Shoals.[26] This was the northernmost territory held by the Creeks and it was organized into Hall, Walton, Gwinnett and Habersham counties.[27] Lawrenceville and Monroe are the principal towns in the area.[28]

Some well-known place names were used in describing the boundaries of this cession. The old Hightower Path, or Trail as it subsequently came to be called, is the present boundary line between Gwinnett and De Kalb counties, being the southwestern line of the former and the northeastern line of the latter. It intersected the present Peachtree Road at the county line of Gwinnett and De Kalb and, crossing the Chattahoochee River at the Shallowford, a short distance down stream from the present Roswell bridge, continued northwest to the Etowah (or Hightower) River.

Until a comparatively few years ago the street and road running north from the courthouse square in Decatur, now Clairmont avenue and road, was known as the Shallowford Road, to which point it ran. The 524th Militia District in De Kalb County, being the northernmost district in that county is still known officially as the Shallowford District.

The present town of Suwanee in Gwinnett County, on the main line of the Southern Railway, derives its name from the Indian village of Suwannee (*sic*) Old Town, which was located a short distance to the west.

February 27, 1819. The Cherokees ceded a large tract of land. In Georgia it comprised an irregular-shaped tract lying west and northwest of all previous cessions. It is included in the counties of Hall, Habersham, White, Lumpkin, Dawson, Union, Towns and Cherokee.[29] Principal towns in the area are Clayton and Cleveland.[30] Insofar as the Cherokees were concerned, this was all until the final session of 1835, and during this sixteen-year period the Cherokee nation was to reach the apex of its civilization.

Pressure upon the Federal government by the people of Georgia for speedy extinguishment of all remaining Indian titles was becoming acute. Aside from the thirst for gold in North Georgia the appetite of white settlers for more and more land was insatiable. Each new river valley was regarded as the promised land and with the rich Chattahoochee River bottoms now within shooting distance, frequent clashes between whites and Indians were taking place. Intruders upon the Cherokee lands west of the river had become a nuisance. Indian agents, appointed by the United States government, were doing their somewhat futile best. More policing seemed in order.

So it happened that on the morning of May 29, 1820, a tall, spare weather-beaten man of stern visage stood at the Shallowford on the Chattahoochee. He was there to uphold the law and, after surveying the pleasant scene spread out before him he set himself to writing a notice and warning:

"Intruders on the Cherokee lands, beware. I am required to remove all white men found trespassing on the Cherokee lands not having a written permit from the agent, Colo. R. J. Meigs. This duty I am about to perform. The Regulars and Indian Light horse will be employed in performing this service, and any opposition will be promptly punished. All white men with there (*sic*) live stock found trespassing on the Indian land will be arrested and handed over to the civil authorities of the United States to be dealt with as the law directs, there (*sic*) families removed to U.S. land, there (*sic*) crops, houses and fences destroyed. . . ."

Aside from the clarity of the notice, it bore a well-known signature. Andrew Jackson signed the document, posted it, then, mounting his horse, he turned toward Alabama.[31]

On June 16, during this excursion through the Cherokee Nation, Jackson wrote to his fellow Carolinian, John C. Calhoun, then Secretary of War, "I found a great many intruders and those on the north of the Chatahoochey (*sic*) not only numerous but insolent and threatening resistence."[32]

Meanwhile the neighboring county of Gwinnett had been laid out by the lottery act of 1818. By the time the United States Census taker got around in 1820, the new county held a white population of 4,741,[33] and its seat of government, Lawrenceville, was incorporated the following year.

Reference to the heads of families, as enumerated in the census for Gwinnett County of 1820, discloses the names of several who in a very few years became pioneer settlers in the yet uncreated county of De Kalb. Some of them were:

Green Baker
Jacob R. Brooks
Fanning Brown
Abraham Chandler
Meredith Collier
Merrell Collier
Levi Dempsey
James Diamond
Lindsey Ellsberry
John Evans
William Hairston
James Hicks
Richard Holt
Jennings Hulsey
William Jackson
James Jett
Stephen Jett
Silas McGrady
Isaiah Parker
Dempsey Perkerson
Benjamin Plaster
Drury Silvey
Redick Smith
Isaac Towers
William Towers
Augustine Young

January 8, 1821. Insofar as the future city of Atlanta was concerned, the Creek cession of this date at Indian Springs was most important, for it included the land upon which the Gate City of the South was to begin modestly more than two decades later.

The cession was bounded as follows: "Beginning on the E. bank of Flint river, where Jackson's line crosses, running thence up the eastern bank of the same along the water's edge to the head of the principle western branch; from thence the nearest and a direct line to the Chattahoochee river, up the eastern bank of said river, along the water's edge to the Shallowford where the present boundary line between the State of Georgia and the Creek nation touches the said river, provided, however, that if the said line should strike the Chattahoochee river below the Creek village Buzzard's Roost, there shall be a set-off made so as to leave the said village 1 mile within the Creek nation."[34]

Aside from the Buzzard Roost stipulation the Creeks reserved 1,000 acres around the springs, a tract around the agency which should become the property of the United States when the agency was removed, and 640 acres on the west bank of the Ocmulgee to include the improvements of the chief, General William McIntosh.

The land ceded at Indian Springs is included in the present counties of Dooly, Houston, Crawford, Monroe, Upson, Pike, Butts (in which Indian Springs is located), Spalding, Fayette, Clayton, Henry, De Kalb, Fulton (as it was prior to the Milton and Campbell annexations in 1932), Old Campbell, and parts of Newton, Coweta, Macon, Worth, Wilcox, Pulaski and Bibb.[35]

Of course all of these counties were not immediately created. Instead, out of this cession of 1821 five huge counties were carved the same year. They were Dooly, Houston, Monroe, Henry and Fayette. The 14th and 17th districts of Henry, now substantially the same districts of Fulton, were added to Fayette later in 1821. They were included in De Kalb when it was cut off from Henry and Fayette in 1822 and were finally incorporated in Fulton when that county was created out of the western part of De Kalb in 1853[36]

It would have been possible therefore, although no specific instances are known, for a man to have built himself a home in late January, 1821, anywhere within the present city limits of Atlanta west of Moreland Avenue and, by virtue of having lived in it thirty-two years, until late in December, 1853, to have resided in four counties without moving.[37]

With the red man officially out and the white man legitimately in, the civilization of the latter began to proliferate in the late domain of the Creeks.[38] Before elaborating this subject however, it might be well to trace the origin of Atlanta's oldest and most renowned place name, Peachtree. Indeed the future city acquired a trade-mark more than sixty years before it was born.

NOTES—SECTION I

[1] Eugene M. Mitchell, "The Indians of Georgia," *Atlanta Historical Bulletin,* (hereinafter cited as *A.H.B.*) XI (Sept., 1937), 21.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] S. G. McLendon, *History of the Public Domain in Georgia* (Atlanta, 1924), 18.

[5] A. D. Candler and C. A. Evans, eds., *Cyclopedia of Georgia* (3 vols. Atlanta, 1906), II, 333-334. Hereafter cited as *Cyclopedia of Georgia.*

[6] *Ibid.,* 334.

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] *Ibid.;* McLendon, *Public Domain,* 15.

[9] Mitchell, "Indians of Georgia," *loc cit.,* 23.

[10] Charles C. Royce, comp., *Indian Land Cessions in the United States,* (18th Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, 1896-97, Washington, 1897), Plate CXXII. Hereafter cited as Royce, *Indian Cessions.*

[11] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 336.

[12] Royce, *Indian Cessions, Plate* CXXII.

[13] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 336.

[14] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] Ulrich B. Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* (Washington, D. C., 1902), 48.

[17] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 336.

[18] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[19] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 337.

[20] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[21] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 51-53.

[22] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 337.

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[25] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 337.

[26] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* 689 and Plate CXXII.

[27] McLendon, *Public Domain,* 17.

[28] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[29] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 337.

[30] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[31] Sarah Blackwell Gober Temple, *The First Hundred Years, A Short History of Cobb County in Georgia,* (Atlanta, 1935), 1. Hereafter cited as Temple, *Cobb County.*

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] James C. Flanigan, *History of Gwinnett County, Georgia,* (Hapeville, Ga., 1943), 32. Hereafter cited as Flanigan, *Gwinnett County.*

[34] Boundaries quoted from Royce, *Indian Cessions,* 702. The Creek village of Buzzard Roost lay along the southeast bank of the Chattahoochee River at a point approximately one mile below the mouth of Utoy Creek, in territory which became Campbell County in 1828 and was annexed to Fulton in 1932. Site of the village is in the present Sandtown District. The ancient two-story frame house at old Sandtown, in which the late Mrs. Joseph M. High, nee Hattie Wilson, was born, still stands upon a commanding eminence overlooking the river and the bottom lands whereon was located Buzzard Roost. There is an island in the river opposite this point.

[35] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 338.

[36] Mitchell, "Indians of Georgia," *loc. cit.,* 25.

[37] That part of the City of Atlanta in Fulton County, lying south of 8th Street is in the 14th Land District; that to the north, in the 17th.

[38] Indian cessions after 1821, by which all remaining Creek and Cherokee titles in Georgia were extinguished, will be cited in subsequent chapters of the present work dealing with the years 1826, 1827, and 1835.

Section II

STANDING PEACHTREE

A Future City Acquires a Trade-Mark

IN ALL probability no place name has ever become more thoroughly associated with a locality than has the name Peachtree with Atlanta and vicinity. The association has been attested by the fact that letters have been delivered here from abroad bearing the address, "Peachtree Street, U. S. A."

Even so, the name antedates the city of its association by more than sixty years and its exact origin is still moot, though narrowed to two possibilities.

The principal towns or villages of our Indian predecessors in the vicinity of Atlanta were located along the Chattahoochee River. Suwannee Old Town was located near the present town of Suwanee in Gwinnett County. Sandtown and Buzzard's Roost were important settlements considerably down stream in what was formerly Campbell, but since 1932, Fulton County.

Between the two extremes and up-river some eight miles from Sand Town and Buzzard's Roost, lay the most important of the three villages, Standing Peachtree. It centered in what is now land lot number 231 of the 17th District of Fulton County on the present site of the River Pumping Station of the Atlanta Waterworks. It is very likely that the village extended along the southeast bank of the Chattahoochee for some distance north and south of the mouth of Peachtree Creek and back eastwardly along Peachtree and Nancy creeks.[1] The latter empties into Peachtree Creek in land lot 219 between the present Moore's Mill and Ridgewood roads.

It is probable too that part of the village was located on the north bank of the river in what is now Cobb County. For there still exists the remnant of an Indian mound just north of and adjacent to the Seaboard Railroad fill at this point.

Certainly Standing Peachtree was strategically located for travel and for trading with the Indians. It was on the frontier between the Creek and Cherokee nations and was a point of entry into the Cherokee nation for the licensed white traders who were permitted to enter the Indian country or traffic with them.[2] The location was convenient too for river traffic. Canoes and crude boats plied up and down the stream to the other villages and there were trails or paths along the river.[3]

Having now located the site of the origin of our best-known and most prolific place name it might be well to look into the origin of the name itself. It is well known of course that most Indian localities or places bore a name expressive of some physical characteristic of the neighborhood. This was fine insofar as Standing Peachtree was concerned although the definite fact of its having been named for a peach tree or a pitch (pine) tree has been lost in the deluge of time.

There is a persistent tradition that the name was derived from a tall pine tree near the mouth of Peachtree Creek, probably atop the high hill northeast of the confluence of the creek and the Chattahoochee. The Indians having blazed this tree to obtain rosin or pitch called it the "pitch tree", which name became corrupted into "peach tree".[4] Tradition also has it that this tall and prominent pine was struck by lightning, causing the sap to run down the trunk and, the Indians noting this, called it the "pitch tree".

In support of this tradition the late Eugene M. Mitchell, in his excellent article "The Story of the Standing Peachtree", written in 1928 and published in the *Atlanta Historical Bulletin* for January of that year adduced the following testimony:

"Miss Virginia Hardin, whose grandfather was the first clerk of the Superior Court at McDonough in Henry County and served as a soldier at Fort Peachtree, says that he stated that it was his understanding that the name was derived from a pitch tree. Hon. Thomas H. Jeffries, now Ordinary of Fulton County, who was reared in that neighborhood, says that Hiram Casey, one of the earliest settlers and for many years justice of the peace and for whom the district was long called Casey's District, told him that the name was derived from a pitch tree."

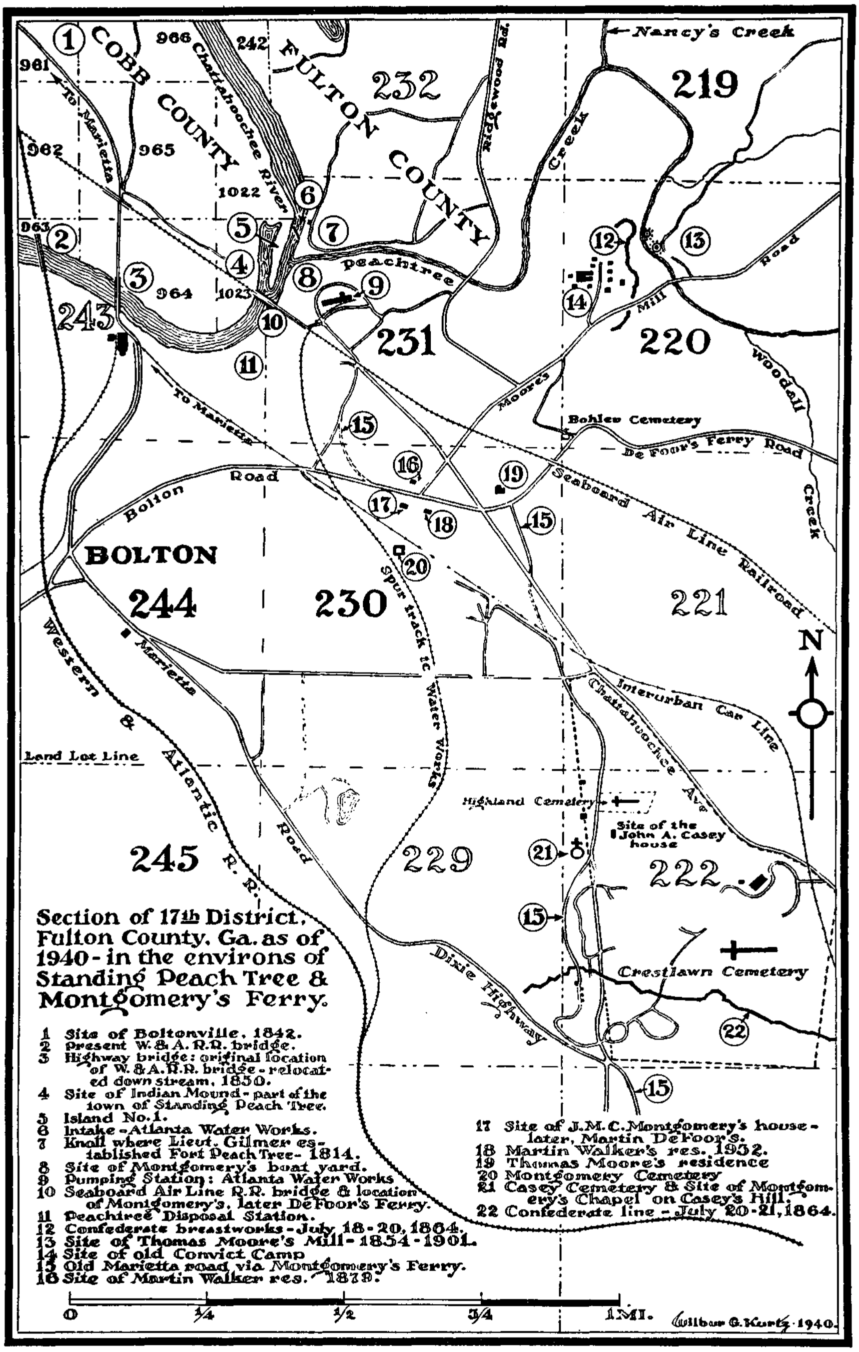
Mr. Mitchell was not trying to prove that the pitch tree story was anything more than tradition for, careful lawyer and writer that he was, he well realized that the above statements were quite within the realm of hearsay evidence.

Contrariwise Mr. Mitchell, in the same article quoted the late George Washington Collier in favor of the "peach tree" derivation. Mr. Collier was born in 1813 and moved to De Kalb County with his father's family in 1823. At some period during the decade of the 1830's he secured the contract for carrying the mails between Decatur and Allatoona, Georgia. His route took him past the site of Standing Peachtree. On April 25, 1897, Robert Adamson, then on the staff of the Atlanta *Constitution,* published an interview with Mr. Collier. That part of the interview pertaining to the name "Peachtree" is requoted from the Mitchell article:

". . . This is the way it was: Standing Peachtree post-office was right where Peachtree Creek runs into the Chattahoochee—right where the pumping station is now. It was not Peachtree Creek then—they called it some Indian name.[5] There was a great huge mound of earth heaped up there—big as this house, maybe bigger—and right on top of it grew a big peach tree. It bore fruit and was a useful and beautiful tree. But it was strange that it should grow on top of that mound, wasn't it? And so they called the post-office out there Standing Peachtree, and the creek they began to call Peachtree Creek. I've passed it many and many a time going on with my mails. There's nothing remaining of it now."[6]

As to the exact origin of the name Peachtree, therefore, the reader is left with two alternatives. Certainly one of the traditions has a basis in fact. Which one, we may never know. The "pitch tree" theory is logical in that pine trees are indigenous to this section, while peach trees are not, though they generally thrive when planted. On the other hand the name Peachtree has survived and multiplied many fold. Pitchtree, as a designation, has not survived in a single record, document or place name, past or present. It is therefore appropriate at this point to depart from the realm of tradition and trace the ambiguity of the name Peachtree from contemporary records.

The earliest record thus far to come to light, documentary or otherwise, pertaining to Standing Peachtree is the following letter, the original of which is in the Georgia Department of Archives and History:


COBB COUNTY
FULTON COUNTY
Chattahoochee River
Nancy's Creek
Ridgewood Rd.
Creek
To Marietta
Peachtree
Mill
Road
Moores
Woodall
Creek
Bohler Cemetery
De Foor's Ferry Road
Seaboard Air Line Railroad
Bolton Road
BOLTON
Spur track to Water Works
Marietta
Western & Atlantic R.R.
Road
Interurban Car Line
Chattahoochee Ave.
Land Lot Line
Highland Cemetery
Site of the John A. Casey house
Crestlawn Cemetery
Dixie Highway
N
961
962
963
964
965
966
242
232
219
1022
1023
231
220
243
244
230
221
245
229
222
1
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1/4
1/2
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1 MI.
Wilbur G. Kurtz 1940.

Section of 17th District, Fulton County, Ga. as of 1940 - in the environs of Standing Peach Tree & Montgomery's Ferry.

1 Site of Boltonville, 1842.
2 Present W. & A. R.R. bridge.
3 Highway bridge: original location of W. & A. R.R. bridge - relocated down stream, 1850.
4 Site of Indian Mound - part of the town of Standing Peach Tree.
5 Island No. 1.
6 Intake - Atlanta Water Works.
7 Knoll where Lieut. Gilmer established Fort Peach Tree - 1814.
8 Site of Montgomery's boat yard.
9 Pumping Station: Atlanta Water Works
10 Seaboard Air Line R.R. bridge & location of Montgomery's, later DeFoor's Ferry.
11 Peachtree Disposal Station.
12 Confederate breastworks - July 18-20, 1864.
13 Site of Thomas Moore's Mill - 1854 - 1901.
14 Site of old Convict Camp
15 Old Marietta road via Montgomery's Ferry.
16 Site of Martin Walker res. 1879.
17 Site of J. M. C. Montgomery's house - later, Martin DeFoor's.
18 Martin Walker's res. 1932.
19 Thomas Moore's residence
20 Montgomery Cemetery
21 Casey Cemetery & Site of Montgomery's Chapel on Casey's Hill.
22 Confederate line - July 20-21, 1864.

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

"August, Ga., 27th May, 1782.

"Dear Genl:

"I have just had the pleasure of seeing our good firm and fast friend the Tallasee King, who has come down with a Talk to me and has brought about forty of his head Men and Warriors with him.

"He informs me, that Mr. McIntosh with a strong party of the Cowetas, etc., were to rendevous at the standing Peach Tree the 26th of this month and they were afterwards to meet at the Big Shoal where they were to meet a number of Cherokees after which they were to fall on the Okonnys on our Frontiers, therefore we have every reason to expect that they will be in upon our back Settlements in about 8 or 10 days at the farthest. I doubt not my dear Genl., you will take proper measures and endeavor to give us every and the most early assistance in your power—for God's sake exert yourself and come in to our timely aid, as delays are dangerous. I have wrote to Col. Clarke on this matter who I dare say will be happy to see you—In the meantime I am

"Dr. Genl. Your Most Obt. Sert.
"Jno. Martin."[7]

"Copy
The Honble. Genl. Pickins
So. Carolina."

The next reference is found in the records of the Executive Council of Georgia, August 1, 1782, it being a note pertaining to the payment of a commissioner who had been sent to "Standing Peachtree" to treat with the Indians. The note follows:

"Application being made by Mr. John Brandon for his secret services in discovering the situation of the Indians at the standing peach tree: RESOLVED, that the sum of sixteen pounds be granted the said Brandon for the above services, and that he do receive a written certificate for the same."[8]

The above correspondence indicates conclusively that Standing Peachtree was a place of some importance during the Revolutionary War and possibly before. How long before is not known. Between the end of the Revolution and the beginning of the War of 1812 the village doubtless had a placid existence as a trading center. But it has always been in the nature of war to disrupt placidity. It therefore happened that the second breach of the peace with the British brought renewed activity and importance to the Standing Peachtree. Indeed, it became Fort Peachtree.

During the War of 1812 the Creek Indians were in alliance with the British. To hold them in check and prevent their depradations upon the white settlements a line of forts was built by the authorities of the State of Georgia.[9] Two of them, Fort Peachtree, sometimes referred to as Fort Gilmer, at the Standing Peachtree and Fort Daniel at Hog Mountain in what later became Gwinnett county, are of vital importance to the history of this section.

Fort Daniel was completed in December, 1813,[10] and Fort Peachtree during the first quarter of 1814. Commissioning of these outposts against the Indians required that they be connected by a road. Consequently the road traversing the thirty intervening miles was opened [in 1814] and became the original Peachtree Road. It was so named from its inception.[11]

Fort Daniel, at the time of its building, was in Jackson County but the location was included in the northern part of Gwinnett when that county was created in 1818. The fort stood on a hill about a quarter of a mile from the present crossroads at Hog Mountain. Captain Nehemiah Garrison was the commandant.[12]

The erection of Fort Peachtree and the command thereof devolved upon a twenty-three year old first lieutenant in the 43rd U. S. Infantry, George Rockingham Gilmer, later congressman, and Governor of Georgia from 1829 to 1831, and 1837-1839. Writing in 1855, he tells of the experience:

"Returning home in October, 1813, after travelling for some months, I received a commission of first lieutenant in the 43d regiment. . . . As soon as a few recruits were collected, an order was issued by Gen. Pinkney, then in command of the Southern army, that they should be put under a suitable officer, and sent into the Indian territory, where active hostilities were going on against the Creeks. I asked for the command and received it. I marched with twenty-two recruits, without arms, except refuse drill muskets, and a small quantity of loose powder and unmoulded lead.[13] My appointed station was on the banks of the Chattahoochee, about thirty or forty miles beyond the frontiers of the state, near an Indian town, not far from where the Georgia Railroad [meaning the Western & Atlantic, the Georgia Railroad not crossing the Chattahoochee] now crosses the Chattahoochee River.

". . . I was ordered to build a fort. I had never seen a fort, and had no means of knowing how to obey the order but what I could get from Duane's Tactics. I went to work, and succeeded very well, so far as I know, or any one else, I suppose, as the strength and fitness of my fortification was never tested.

"A few days after my arrival at the standing peachtree, a ruffian fellow came into the camp with some fine catfish for sale. I had supplied myself with hooks and lines for catching cat in the Chattahoochee before I left home, and had baited and hung them from limbs into the water. I had noticed this fellow the day before gliding stealthily along near the bank of the river, in a small canoe, where the lines with baited hooks were hung. I intimated to him that the fish he was offering were taken from my hooks. With the demoniac look of hatred and revenge, he drew his knife from his belt, and holding it for a moment in the position for striking, turned the edge to his throat, and drew it across; expressing thus, more forcibly than he could have done by words, his desire to cut my throat. I never saw him afterwards.

". . . Whilst I was still unprepared for making much of a fight, I heard one day about one o'clock, the firing of volleys of rifles in the swamp across the river from my camp. After calling in the men who were in the woods felling timbers for picketing, getting the drill muskets in the best possible order, and putting the men in a position for defense, I ordered a resolute soldier to cross the river and endeavor to find out what the firing meant. He saw several warriors going from cabin to cabin of the town, and meeting the men and women with apparent joy. Soon after eleven warriors, with their town people came to the camp and described to me exultingly as well as they could the battle of the Horseshoe, where they had fought under General Jackson.[14] They brought home eighteen scalps. . . ."[15]

Gilmer then relates that after he had been stationed for several months at the "standing peach tree" he had occasion to serve as intermediary, with George Proctor,[16] a Cherokee chief, in the matter of saving the lives of two

Creek Indians slated for execution. He further says "on the day after this success in saving the lives of two hostile Creeks I took my departure from the Standing Peachtree."[17]

Gilmer Street in Atlanta remains as the only local monument to this eminent Georgian, whose life span extended from 1790 to 1859.

Among those in Gilmer's modest command of twenty-two at the Standing Peachtree during the year 1814 was one destined for the role of a leading citizen of De Kalb County less than a decade later. Indeed a street in Ansley Park, Montgomery Ferry Drive, bears his name to this day and quite a number of his descendants can be identified among the substantial contemporary citizens of Atlanta and Marietta.

James McC. Montgomery was born in Lancaster District, S. C., May 19, 1770,[18] and was thus twenty years the senior of his commanding officer at Fort Peachtree. As a young man, Montgomery settled in Jackson County, Georgia, which place was his home in 1814.

He had occasion, while stationed at Standing Peachtree, to write to Andrew Jackson, thus preserving for posterity some interesting information about the place. The following quotations are from two letters written to Jackson,[19] the first being dated, "Floydsville Chatahuchee 20th, March, 1814:[20]

"Genl. Jackson:

"Sir having completed a campaign under Genl. Floyd on the last day of Feby, on the first of this Inst I accepted of an appointment in the United States Service, that of Superintendent of Artificers which appointment had been made on the 18th of Feby when I was at Fort Hull on Calabee Creek near the Tallipoosy, being notified by the proper Authority of my appointment I accepted of the same returned home to the up country (as I command the most Frontier Battalion).

"I instantly organized a corspe of Artificers and with Lieut Gilmore [Gilmer] of the 43rd Regiment U. S. Army took up our line of March for this place the Lieut having twenty two Regulars though chiefly new recruits, and on the 14th the very respectable Lieut a Mr. Bowman Principle Boatright, Soldiers, artificers and myself ariv'd on the banks of the Chatahuchey at a place named as above, which place had been pitched on by Major Burke one of the United States Deputy Quarter Master Genls: who in the month of Jany. last built, or had built a boat in order to try the experiment of transporting supplies from this place to Fort Mitchell[21] the Experiment so far succeeded that General Pinkney has thought proper to order the building of ten Boats, which I am now stationed on the Chatahuchey in order to effect; It being left to myself to choose a site for the Fort and a place for a boat yard. I accordingly with Lieut Gilmore [Gilmer] and Mr. Bowman the Boatright pitched on a spot about a quarter and a half quarter from where Major Burke pitched on, on a commanding eminence below the mouth of a large creek[22] which is navigable for several hundred yards and makes an excellent convenient Harbour, and right opposite a bend on the river from where the Gate of the Fort when built an view of the river can be had both up and down and renders the scene quite romantic, the boat yard may be either on the bank of the river or creek or both and can be commanded by the Fort. . . . That success may crown all your endeavors and that you may still continue cover yourself with Glory is the prayer of Sir your

"Obedient Servt &c

"J. McC. MONTGOMERY, S.U.S.A."[23]

Sergeant Montgomery not having had a reply to his first letter, wrote to Jackson again, from Clarkesboro, July 24, 1814, after completing his assignment at "the Standing Peach tree on the Chatahoochy fifteen below the Cherokee line, at a place call'd Floydsville in the Creek Nation", as he referred to the location in the second letter.[24]

This communication describes what was built at Standing Peachtree after the arrival of Montgomery on March 14, 1814.

". . . laid off the ground for the Fort and a place for a boat yard adjacent to the mouth of a large creek on the East side of the River and immediately commenc'd building and in two months built two large hew'd logg block houses, six dwelling houses, one fram'd store house, one Bridge half a mile from the Fort across Laurel River,[25] a large branch of the Chatahoochy which heads near the stone mountain, and five boats (the order being countermanded as to the other five) when the above were finished I was by Majr Burke the D.Q.M. Gen'l of the United States Army directed to discharge the Artificers [workmen] and my Assistant and repair to Fort Hawkins [Macon] for a settlement of my accounts. . . . "[26]

It has already been noted that Fort Peachtree occupied the crest of a commanding eminence northeast of the confluence of the Chattahoochee River and Peachtree Creek. Montgomery's boat yard was in low ground just across or south of Peachtree Creek.

The ground itself has changed but little during the intervening century and a quarter. Large trees, chiefly sycamore and river birch, occupy the site of the boat yard. No trace of the fort remains atop the hill, but the summit is flat and is covered with reeds and fair sized oaks and pines. A superb view of the river, both up and down is obtainable from this site, at the base of which is the concrete tower and water intake of the Atlanta Waterworks Department.[27]

That James McConnell Montgomery was greatly impressed by the natural beauty of the Standing Peachtree locality is made manifest by the last paragraph of his second letter to Jackson. It reads:

"On enquiring of the Genl. Aid what was to be done with the Fort at the Peachtree, he said it would, or did lye with you, what disposition to make of it. I would just state to you that this is a nice place in the creek country and will no doubt be a convenient place for a public Garsn. It is thought to be in the direction from Augusta and Milledgeville to Huntsville Ms [Mission?] and Colo Huger said it would be kept up as a Sub agency or some thing of that kind. It is no doubt a very healthy place and has cost the Government not less than five thousand dollars and it appears like a pity to abandon it. However as all rests with you, you can do that which you think best. If a public stand was made there such as an Agency, or Factory, I would be glad to have any appointment that you think I merited at that place. I refer you to Colo Milton of the 3rd U. S. Regt. for my character as a soldier and citizen. I wrote you sometime past but don't know whether you ever rec'd or not. It is very difficult supplying so few troops at the Peach Tree there being only 22.

"I am with real regard your Excellency,
"Obt. Servt.
"J. McC. MONTGOMERY."[28]

There is no evidence that Jackson answered either of these letters. Montgomery became a civilian a short time later and returned to his home in Jackson County. But Standing Peachtree was to reacquire its leading citizen less than a decade later. Before his return it will be appropriate to trace the opening of the original Peachtree Road, a project contemporary with the building of Fort Peachtree and the first namesake of the village of Standing Peachtree.

The officer, upon whom devolved the duty of having the road constructed was, in all probability Captain Nehemiah Garrison, commandant of Fort Daniel.[29] Three citizens who were stock raisers and therefore familiar with the country were employed to mark out the route. They were Robert Young, William Nesbit and Isham Williams.[30] The former lived in what is now Hall County and the others in Gwinnett.

The road builders proceeded to their task by following the trail leading from the white settlement at Hog Mountain to Suwannee Old Town until the trail crossed the ridge, known since as Peachtree ridge.[31] Turning southwestwardly the trail blazers followed this ridge, upon which Peachtree Road presently runs and upon which, years later, the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line, now Southern Railway, was to build its main line to the East.

Turning west at the future site of Buckhead the original Peachtree Road followed what is now Pace's Ferry and Moore's Mill roads to Standing Peachtree.[32] This was many years before Hardy Pace established a ferry or Thomas Moore, a mill.

Having marked out the new road between Fort Daniel and Fort Peachtree, the same men were employed to construct it. Each of the three agreed to furnish some hands and William Nesbit was chosen to superintend the work. John Young, Lewis Lawly, John Lawly, and a Negro man did the work; Hiram Williams and Gustin Young, who were boys, drove the cart. Isham Williams and Robert Young were generally on picket duty, looking out for Indians, then on the warpath. For their labors in constructing this road the contractors were paid $150.[33]

In lieu of a more liberal fee and for their services to their own generation and to posterity, the three pioneers who marked out and built the original Peachtree Road deserve a tribute as can be preserved only through the medium of the printed page.

Robert Young, senior member of the trio had no knowledge of books except the great book of nature, from which he drew liberally. He was a man of superior judgment and had acquired from observation a large fund of information. His word and his integrity were never questioned by those who knew him. He always wore his hair tied in a queue, which he prized highly and of which he was proud to the day of his death.[34]

He is buried in the Young family cemetery on Peachtree Road in Hall County between Flowery Branch and Gainesville. The monument over his grave proclaims that it is

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
ROBERT YOUNG, SR.
WHO WAS BORN DEC. 13TH, 1760
NEAR FREDERICKSBURG,
VIRGINIA
AND DIED 21ST OF MARCH
1851
AGED 91 YEARS[35]

In 1935 the Joseph Habersham Chapter, D.A.R. of Atlanta, placed a bronze tablet upon the front of the Sears-Roebuck Building on Ponce de Leon Avenue. It is inscribed:

THIS TABLET
COMMEMORATES THE SPOT
FORMERLY PONCE DE LEON SPRING
WHERE ROBERT YOUNG
A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER OF CHEROKEE, NOW HALL COUNTY
FIRST TRADED WITH THE CREEK INDIANS
AND BUILT THE PEACHTREE TRAIL FROM
ATLANTA TO FLOWERY BRANCH

Isham Williams, woodsman and cattle raiser in his youth and well-to-do and solid farmer in his older days, was one of the original settlers of Gwinnett, and built the first courthouse in the county in 1820.[36]

One of his outstanding traits of character was his benevolence and charity to the needy and destitute. Not only his ear but his purse, corncrib and smokehouse were ever open to the widow and the needs of the orphan. He was a man of strong native intellect and good judgment. With proper early education he would have been a man of mark. His only fault, and what man is free from them, was a quick, irascible temper, which sometimes led him into difficulties and unpleasantness.[37]

The old pioneer rests in the bosom of the land upon which he lived for so long and loved so dearly. His grave, half hidden by briars, lies in a plum thicket beside the road that runs from Lawrenceville to Norcross and Duluth and about three miles from the former. The roughly hewn box-shaped tomb is inscribed:

IN
MEMORY
OF
ISHAM WILLIAMS
BORN NOV. 8, 1776
DIED FEB. 16, 1852[38]

William Nesbit, youngest of the trail-blazing triumvirate, was born in York District, South Carolina, and in early life came to Jackson County, from whence he moved to Gwinnett. Known widely for his fleetness of foot, he served his county outstandingly as sheriff and deputy sheriff for fourteen consecutive years. Later he represented Gwinnett in the state senate, first in 1829 and again in 1833.[39]

He was a man of striking physical appearance, being full six feet tall and evincing strength and activity. His face was of the finest type, bespeaking manliness but kindness and benevolence.[40]

His home was on the Hightower Trail at the De Kalb-Gwinnett line. It is still standing and now faces the Decatur-Lawrenceville Road. Across the road and in plain sight thereof is the old family graveyard. Under a marble box tomb sleeps the man who supervised the building of Peachtree Road. The fleet-footed sheriff is at rest. The tomb is inscribed:

IN MEMORY OF
WM. NESBIT
BORN
JAN'RY 1789
DIED
JUNE 27TH 1863[41]

The only member of the Peachtree Road construction team to become a resident of De Kalb County was 'Gustine Young, one of the two boys who drove the cart. He was a son of Robert and Celia Strickland Young and was born in 1799 in the territory later to become Hall County.

About the time De Kalb was created in 1822, he came hither and settled on a small hill at the foot of the steep side of Stone Mountain. When the first Inferior Court jury list was drawn for the new county, July 29, 1823, Augustine Young was listed as juror No. 4.[42]

In 1833 he moved to Paulding County, created the year before, and took up his residence in that part of the county later set aside to Polk, five miles from Cedartown. The settlement that grew up around his residence is still called Young's Station. Here he spent the remainder of his life as a substantial farmer, at the same time attaining the substantial weight of three hundred and sixty-five pounds. He and his wife, nee Catherine Pounds, died the same day, February 2, 1868, and both were buried in the same grave in the family cemetery at Young's Station.[43]

The War of 1812 concluded, Standing Peachtree resumed its previous status as a trading post and point of entry into the Cherokee country. The fort apparently fell into disuse. At any rate available records are silent as to its ultimate disposition. No trace of it remains now, though the site is intact.

After the Creek cession of 1821 the village of Standing Peachtree ceased to have Indian significance. The territory was opened to white settlers and they delayed not in coming.

James McC. Montgomery of Jackson County, erstwhile boat builder at Fort Peachtree remembered well the pristine beauty and favorable natural situation of the locality and returned there to make his home and spend the rest of his life. The exact date of his return is uncertain although it was probably in 1821 or early 1822. He was there while it was still part of Fayette County for on December 17, 1822, "J. McC. Montgomery of the County of Fayette", deeded some of his land in Jackson County to a purchaser. This was only eight days after the Act was passed cutting off De Kalb from Fayette.[44]

He soon became the leading citizen of the community and built his home some half a mile back from the river in land lot 230 of the 17th District on what is now Bolton Road nearly opposite the termination of Moore's Mill Road. The two youngest of his thirteen children were born there.

"Standing Peach Tree" was the first town in De Kalb county to be designated as a post office, the date being February 5, 1825. It thus antedated Decatur, the second, by about a year and a half.[45]

J. McC. Montgomery and two of his sons kept the postmastership in the family during the entire existence of the office. Telemachus F. Montgomery was the incumbent from February 5, 1825 to February 25, 1826, whereupon the old gentleman took over. He alternated in office with James F. Montgomery until it was abolished December 22, 1842, and moved across the river to Boltonville in Cobb County.[46] Even here it remained within the family circle, for the postmaster was James A. Collins, who had married Cynthia Venable, daughter of the senior Mr. Montgomery's half-sister.[47] Collins was shortly to become one of the first merchants of Marthasville and Atlanta.

Standing Peachtree was, in 1829, of sufficient importance to be cited as a place of reckoning in a statewide publication. Adiel Sherwood, in his *State Gazetteer* for that year describes the location of Decatur as follows: "95 miles Northwest of Milledgeville, 25 miles Southwest of Lawrenceville, 9 miles Southwest of Rock Mountain and 12 miles East of Standing Peachtree on the Chattahoochee."

On December 25, 1837, Mr. Montgomery's old commanding officer at Fort Peachtree, George R. Gilmer, then Governor of Georgia, assented to an Act passed by the General Assembly, which "authorized and empowered James McC. Montgomery of the county of De Kalb to establish a ferry across the Chattahoochee River upon his own land, in the counties of De Kalb and Cobb at a place known by the name of the Standing Peachtree."[48]

The east landing of this ferry was in land lot 231 and the west landing, in Cobb County, was on lot number 1023. The main line of the Seaboard Railroad from Atlanta to Birmingham now crosses the river on a steel bridge at the identical location of the old ferry.

Montgomery's Ferry was opened at a strategic time, for white settlers with their wagons, household goods and live stock were swarming across the river into the old Cherokee nation, recently opened for settlement by the cession of 1835. Indeed the name of the ferry displaced on the maps the name of Standing Peachtree, as "a noted crossing place over the Chattahoochee"[49] and, as has been noted, the post office was discontinued in 1842.

But its progeny are legion. First, previously noted, was Peachtree Road. The date the name was given to the creek is uncertain. In all probability it was contemporary with the road. We know it was Peachtree Creek in 1821, for the State surveys made that year and now in the office of the Secretary of State so designate it.[50]

Down through the years use of the name has multiplied until we now have Peachtree Street, Peachtree Battle Avenue, Circle, Drive, Peachtree-Dunwoody Road, Heights, Peachtree Hills Avenue, Peachtree-Memorial Drive, Place, Road, Terrace, View and Way, not to mention West Peachtree Street. Business buildings, churches, apartments, clubs and other structures bear the euphonious name and nearly fifty business institutions presently make use of the designation.

The Standing Peachtree has in truth covered the land with its descendants and provided the metropolis of the Southeast and its environs with a trade mark, known the world over.

NOTES—SECTION II

[1] Eugene M. Mitchell, "The Story of The Standing Peachtree," *A.H.B.*, II (Jan. 1928), 11. Hereafter cited as Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree." *Cf.* Eleazer Early, Map of Georgia, 1818, Georgia State Library, Atlanta.

[2] Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree," *loc. cit.*, 10.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.*, 15.

[5] Mr. Collier's recollection in this connection erred. The State Surveys, made in 1821, and now in the office of the Secretary of State, Atlanta, call the stream "Peachtree Creek." This was before Mr. Collier's family moved to De Kalb County, and, when he, in fact, was a boy of eight.

[6] Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree," *loc. cit.,* 18.

[7] Reprinted in *A.H.B.,* XIX (Oct. 1939), 291. Col. Martin, writer of the letter, was the last of Georgia's Revolutionary Governors, serving as Chief Executive from Jan., 1782 to Jan., 1783. Immediately following he became a commissioner to negotiate a treaty with the Creek Indians.

[8] Allen D. Candler, ed., *Revolutionary Records of Georgia,* II, 349.

[9] Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree," *loc. cit.,* 13-14.

[10] Flanigan, *Gwinnett County,* 18.

[11] *Ibid.,* 15.

[12] *Ibid.,* 8.

[13] The march began at the barracks near Washington, Wilkes County.

[14] The Cherokees fought under Jackson and against the Creeks at the battle of the Horseshoe on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama, Jan. 22, 1814. The Creeks were defeated.

[15] George R. Gilmer, *Sketches of Some of the First Settlers of Upper Georgia, of the Cherokees, and the Author,* (Reprint edition, Americus, Ga., 1926), 196-198. Hereafter cited as Gilmer, *Georgians.*

[16] It is thought that Proctor Creek in western Fulton County was named for this Cherokee chief.

[17] Gilmer, *Georgians,* 199; Gilmer's departure took place late in 1814.

[18] E. Katherine Anderson, "James McC. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree," *A.H.B.,* XII (Dec. 1937), 20. Hereafter cited as Anderson, "Montgomery." The author is a great-great-granddaughter of her subject. *Cf.* Tombstone inscription Montgomery Family Cemetery, Fulton County.

[19] Both quoted in full in Anderson, "Montgomery," *loc. cit.*

[20] Anderson, "Montgomery," 18; Floydsville was a military name given Standing Peachtree. There is no evidence that the name was used locally to any extent.

[21] Fort Mitchell was located about 150 miles down the Chattahoochee River, and was built by Gen. Floyd after he had constructed a line of blockhouses and stockade forts from the Ocmulgee westward, and was used as a base for his march into Alabama against the Creeks at Autossee and Challibee.

[22] Undoubtedly, Peachtree Creek, though not then so named.

[23] Anderson, "Montgomery," *loc. cit.,* 18-22.

[24] *Ibid.,* 22.

[25] Montgomery probably called Peachtree Creek "Laurel River" because he was there during the season when mountain laurel is in bloom along the Chattahoochee.

[26] Anderson, "Montgomery," *loc. cit.,* 22-23.

[27] Site visited by the present writer during January and February, 1950.

[28] Anderson, "Montgomery," *loc. cit.,* 23-24.

[29] Flanigan, *Gwinnett County,* 16.

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree", *loc. cit.,* 12.

[33] Flanigan, *Gwinnett County,* 17.

[34] *Ibid.,* 17-18.

[35] Cemetery visited and inscription copied by the present writer, July 17, 1937.

[36] Harold Martin, "Out of a Wilderness Into Sage and Gullies", *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 21, 1944.

[37] Flanigan, *Gwinnett County,* 327-328.

[38] Cemetery visited and inscription copied by the present writer, July 20, 1946.

[39] Flanigan, *Gwinnett County,* 374-375.

[40] *Ibid.,* 375.

[41] Cemetery visited and inscription copied by the present writer, Oct. 24, 1931.

[42] Minutes, Inferior Court, De Kalb County, 1823. Hereafter cited as Minutes, I. C. De Kalb.

[43] Information furnished to the present writer by James Sterling Young, grandson of Augustine Young, at his home in Cedartown, Ga., Sept. 18, 1948.

[44] Anderson, "Montgomery", *loc. cit.,* 26.

[45] Records of the Post Office Department, being a Record of Appointments of Postmasters in De Kalb and Fulton counties in Georgia, 1825-1931. The National Archives, Washington, D. C. Photostat of original in collection of Franklin M. Garrett. Hereafter cited as Record of Postmasters, De Kalb or Fulton.

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] Anderson, "Montgomery", *loc. cit.,* 28.

[48] *Ibid.,* 34.

[49] *Ibid.,* 35.

[50] Mitchell, "Standing Peachtree", *loc. cit.,* 15.

Section III

THE EIGHTEEN-TWENTIES

Age of the Pioneers. Their Names Now Cover the Land

CHAPTER 1

1821-1822-1823

Henry, Fayette—Then De Kalb

Organization of De Kalb County

BECAUSE the land lot is such an integral designation in connection with all real estate transactions in this section, it might be well to look into the matter of its origin. Indeed, the land lot was the basic unit in the laying out of all Georgia counties subsequent to the Indian cession of 1802.

Land acquired prior to that cession and including all territory in Georgia south of Franklin, Banks and Jackson counties and lying east of the Oconee River is known as "Head Right" country. That is to say, none of it was surveyed and divided into land districts and land lots. It was only surveyed in response to an application for a head-right grant and could be in any shape the grantee desired so long as it conformed in amount to his grant.[1]

All counties laid out after the cession of 1802 and the Land Act of 1803 are known as "Land Lottery" counties. There were eight of these lotteries, covering a period from 1805 to 1833, inclusive. Those entitled to draw were free white male citizens over 18 years of age. Every such citizen, who had not previously drawn, was entitled to one ticket; if a husband or father, to two tickets; certain officers and soldiers to two; widows and orphans were included in the distribution.[2] Grant fees for the various lotteries ranged from five dollars to fifty dollars, the average being approximately ten dollars.[3]

It has already been noted that five large counties, Dooly, Houston, Monroe, Henry and Fayette, were created from the Creek Indian cession of January 8, 1821. Each of the five counties was divided into Land Districts 9 miles square, and these into lots of 202½ acres each. The land itself was distributed under Act of May 15, 1821, which created the counties, by lottery, drawn near the close of that year.[4]

The persons who drew the various land lots in Henry and Fayette counties, known as original grantees from the state, were residents of practically all, if not all, of the then existing counties in Georgia. Many sold the land sight unseen and comparatively few actually established residence on the land acquired in the Lottery of 1821, which incidentally, was the fifth of eight lotteries.

Since Henry and Fayette counties were the parents of De Kalb and the grandparents of Fulton County, it will not be amiss at this point to review the Act of May 15, 1821, by which they were organized. Although Dooly, Houston and Monroe counties were created under the same act, they do not concern us here and references to them in the act will be omitted, except in the preamble.

"AN ACT

To organize the Counties of Dooly, Houston, Monroe, Henry, and Fayette; to add a part of Henry to the County of Fayette; and to establish an additional Circuit, to be called the Flint Circuit, and in the mean time to attach the said Counties to the Southern, Ocmulgee and Western Circuits.

#1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That it shall be the duty of any three or more of the persons hereinafter named, not being themselves candidates, in each of the Counties aforesaid, to hold an election for five Justices of the Inferior Court,[5] in each of the Counties aforesaid; giving at least twenty days notice when said election shall be held; at the places by this act to be designated for the temporary holding of the Superior Courts in the said Counties; and the said persons shall certify from under their hands to the Governor, the five candidates who have the highest number of votes, who shall thereupon be commissioned by the Governor, and hold their office until the next election for Justices of the Inferior Court in course throughout the state; unless their offices shall become sooner vacant by law: And that the following persons be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for superintending the said elections in the counties aforesaid, to wit, . . . For the County of Henry, William Harkins, David Castleberry, Cheadle Cochran, Solomon Stricklin, William M'Knight, Charles Gates, senr. and Lee Jeffers. For the County of Fayette, James Strawn, Thomas A. Dobbs, Richard Respass, J. McC. Montgomery, and Jesse Harris.

#2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Justices of the Inferior Courts of the counties aforesaid, are hereby appointed commissioners of the court-houses and jails of their respective counties, and they are hereby vested with full power and authority to fix on the site for the public buildings in their said counties which shall be as near the centre thereof as convenience will permit, having due regard to the present population of the said counties, and their probable increase therein, until said counties shall be subdivided; at which places the courts and general elections shall be held, as soon as suitable buildings shall have been erected. And the said Justices, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized to purchase or lease as much land as they may deem sufficient for the erection of the said public buildings, and to contract with any person or persons for building a court-house and jail in the aforesaid counties respectively.

#3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Justices of the Inferior Courts of the counties aforesaid, shall have full power and authority, and shall proceed, as soon as may be, after their appointment, to lay off the said counties respectively, into as many Captain's districts[6] as they in their discretion may think proper; and whenever said districts shall be so laid off and defined, the Justices of the Inferior Courts aforesaid, or any two of them, shall advertise and superintend an election in each Captain's district, for two Justices of the Peace, giving fifteen days notice thereof; who shall be commissioned by the Governor, and continue in office until the next election in course for justices of the peace, throughout this State, unless their offices shall sooner become vacant by law.

#4. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duties of the justices of the peace, after they shall have been commissioned as aforesaid, to advertise in their respective districts, the elections of captains and subaltern officers, as required by the militia laws in force in this State; the said elections to be superintended and certified agreeably to the provisions of the said militia laws.

#5. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Justices of the Inferior Courts of the counties aforesaid, or a majority of them, are hereby authorized and required to advertise at least fifteen days, at three or more public places in each of the aforesaid counties, and then hold elections therein respectively for Clerks of the Inferior and Superior Courts, Sheriffs, Coroners, Tax Collectors, receivers of returns of taxable property, and County Surveyors, which said elections shall be held at the most central place in each of the said counties respectively, to be designated by the Justices of the Inferior Court, or a majority of them, in their advertisements of such elections as aforesaid.

#6. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall be the duty of his Excellency the Governor, to commission all officers, civil and military, in the counties aforesaid, who may be elected agreeably to the provisions of this act.

#7. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Justices of the Inferior Courts in each county aforesaid, respectively, as soon as they shall be commissioned and qualified, shall proceed to select grand and petit jurors, agreeably to the laws now in force, regulating the drawing of juries.

#8. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whenever the officers in each captain's district, shall have been elected and commissioned, agreeably to the provisions of this act, it shall be the duty of the Justices of the Inferior Courts of the counties aforesaid, to advertise the elections of the field officers of each county, giving twenty days previous notice; and it shall be the duty of the Justices of the peace, or any two of them, in said counties, to superintend the said elections, and certify the same, as required by the militia laws in force in this State.

#9. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That whenever the militia of the aforesaid counties are organized, agreeably to the provisions of this act, they shall be attached as follows: . . . and the counties of Monroe, Henry, and Fayette, to the first brigade of the fifth division of the militia of this State.

#10. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That immediately from and after the passing of this act, the fourth, fifth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and seventeenth districts[7] of Henry county, shall be detached therefrom and added to the county of Fayette, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

#11. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That from and after the next annual meeting of the General Assembly, the said counties of Dooly, Houston, Monroe, Henry, and Fayette, shall form and constitute a circuit, to be called the Flint circuit; and the General Assembly, at their next annual meeting, shall proceed to elect a Judge of the Superior Courts thereof, and a Solicitor General.

#12. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That until the appointment of a Judge and Solicitor General of the said Flint circuit, the counties of . . . Henry and Fayette shall be attached to the Western circuit: and it shall be, and it is hereby declared to be the duty of the Judges and Solicitors General of the circuits to which the said counties are hereby temporarily attached, to open and hold Superior Courts therein at such places as the Justices of the Inferior Courts shall fix, agreeably to the provisions of this act, at the following times; to wit, . . . for the county of Henry, on the second Monday in June and December; for the county of Fayette, the Thursday after the second Monday in June and December.

#13. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Inferior Courts . . .' in the county of Henry shall be held on the second Monday in May and October; and in the county of Fayette, third Monday in May and October.

#14. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That until suitable buildings are erected and a site to be established by law, the Superior and Inferior Courts, in the counties aforesaid, shall be held at such places as the justices of the Inferior Court, or a majority of them shall appoint; and the elections for justices of the Inferior Court shall be held at such places as the commissioners, or a majority of them, appointed by this act, shall direct; Provided, the places for holding said elections shall be as near the centre of said counties, as may, in their judgment, be most convenient for the inhabitants thereof.

DAVID ADAMS,
Speaker of the House of
Representatives.

MATTHEW TALBOT,
President of the Senate.

Assented to, 24th. December, 1821.

JOHN CLARKE, Governor."[8]

At the same time another act was passed providing for the appointment of Commissioners to rent out such Fractions and Islands as may be in a state fit for cultivation, in several counties, including Henry and Fayette, and to prevent waste and trespass on the same.

The Commissioners appointed for Henry County were James L. Burks, Solomon Strickland and William M'Corkle and for Fayette, Thomas A. Dobbs, Richard Respass and James Montgomery. The act also specified places where the rents were to be paid. "For all Fractions and Islands lying in Henry County, at the house of Stokely Morgan, in Jasper County and for that lying in Fayette, at the Standing Peach Tree."[9]

The considerable body of land which became Henry and Fayette counties in 1821 had long been in the nature of neutral ground between the Creek and Cherokee Indians. It was sparsely occupied by Creeks and the Cherokees had never claimed south of the Chattahoochee River. This fact perhaps accelerated its rapid settlement by whites. Immigration into the new counties was rapid and the population increased so speedily that within a year there was a demand for a new county. This was effectuated by act of the Georgia Assembly of 1822.[10]

The Act by which De Kalb County was created also provided for the creation of Bibb, Pike and Crawford counties. It was entitled:

"AN ACT

To lay out four new counties from the counties of Houston, Twiggs, Monroe, Jones, Henry, Fayette and Gwinnett, and to attach said new counties to the Flint circuit."[11]

The boundaries of De Kalb County were set forth in the act as follows:

"Beginning at the Gwinnett corner on the Newton line, thence along the Hightower Trail to where the Peach-tree road crosses said trail, from thence a direct line through Gwinnett county to the lower corner of fractional lot on the Chatahochie (*sic*) river, No. 344 in the 6th district of said county, thence down said river to the boundary line near Sand town, thence along said boundary line to the district corner between the districts No. 9 and 14, in the southwest corner of Newton county on the Ocmulgee river, thence along the line dividing Newton and Henry counties, to the beginning corner on Hightower trail, forming one new county to be called De Kalb."[12]

This act was assented to by Governor John Clarke, December 9, 1822.

Governor Clarke assented to another act on December 29, 1822, which provided for the organization of the four new counties, including De Kalb. Its provisions were almost identical with the act under which Henry and Fayette were organized the year before.

The provisions pertaining specifically to De Kalb County follow:

"That the place for holding the Superior and Inferior Courts, and for the election of county officers, shall be, in the county of De Kalb, at the house of William Jackson."[13]

"That the Surveyor of Fayette county be, and he is hereby authorised to run and mark the dividing line between the counties of De Kalb and Gwinnett, and that the county of De Kalb defray the expense of running said line."[14]

Thus was provided the machinery for organizing the county wherein slightly more than two decades later, the City of Atlanta was to rise and, together with its suburbs spread itself over the land. Meanwhile much was to happen, for indeed the machinery provided by the Legislatures of 1821 and 1822 was set into immediate motion.

It is interesting to note in passing that Henry, Fayette and De Kalb counties were all named for individuals prominent in the American Revolution. The first bears the name of Patrick Henry, Virginia orator and statesman, who accomplished so much in maintaining the morale of the colonists in their fight for independence; Fayette was named in honor of the Marquis de Lafayette, gallant French soldier, whose military aid to General Washington during the Revolution proved invaluable. The name of De Kalb County honors the memory of Baron Johann De Kalb, a native German, who made the supreme sacrifice upon behalf of American freedom at the battle of Camden, S. C., August 9, 1780.

When De Kalb County was created the section composing it had already been organized into militia districts, and Justices of the Inferior Court and justices of the peace residing in the newly created county retained their respective offices.

Under the act of the Legislature of December 23, 1822, the Justices of the Inferior Court had been authorized to pick a public site for Court House and Jail as near the center of the county as convenience would permit; and to purchase one square or lot of land for that purpose and lay out a county town on said lot and dispose of lots under such rules and regulations as they might think most conducive to the interest of the county. They were authorized also to erect a court house and jail as soon as convenient.[15]

It was not until July 28, 1823, that the justices got around to reporting the selection of a location for a county seat, elections and court proceedings meanwhile having intruded upon the private life of William Jackson.

The site selected was Land Lot 246 of the 15th district, present location of the central portion of the City of Decatur. This land lot is now bounded approximately as follows: North, by a line running somewhat north of Cemetery Street and intersecting the old part of the Decatur cemetery; South by the Georgia Railroad; East by Hillyer Place, Ponce de Leon Court and the eastern boundary of the old cemetery; and West by Electric avenue and Ponce de Leon Place.

It was accordingly ordered that all public business should be held and done at the town of Decatur on and after the first Tuesday in September, 1823.[16]

By act of the Legislature, December 10, 1823, selection of Land Lot 246 was made official. This piece of legislation was titled:

"AN ACT

To make permanent the site of the public buildings in the County of De Kalb, at the town of Decatur, and to incorporate the same."

Text of the Act follows:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this act, the site of the public buildings for the county of De Kalb be and the same is hereby declared to be permanently fixed on lot number 246 in the fifteenth district, formerly Henry, now De Kalb, which said public site shall be called and known by the name of Decatur.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, by the authority afore-said, that from and after the passing of this act that Reuben Cone, William Morris, William Gresham, James White, and Thomas A. Dobbs, be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners of the town of Decatur, in the County of De Kalb, and they, or a majority of them, shall have full power to convene at any time after the passage of this Act, and proceed to the appointment of a clerk, and such other officers as they may deem necessary to carry this act into execution.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that the said commissioners shall hold their respective appointments hereby given them, until the first Monday in January, 1825, at which time, and on every subsequent year thereafter, the citizens of the said town of Decatur, entitled to vote for members of the General Assembly, shall choose by ballot, on the first Monday in January in every succeeding year, five persons to succeed them in office, as Commissioners of said town and they are hereby invested with full power and authority to make such bye-laws and regulations, and to inflict such pains, penalties and forefeitures, (*sic*) and do all other incorporate acts as in their judgment shall be most conducive to the good order and government of the said town of Decatur; Provided, that such bye-laws and regulations be not repugnant to the laws and constitution of this state: And also provided, that no poll-tax shall exceed one dollar.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforesaid, that any two or more justices of the peace, or justices of the Inferior Court for the County of De Kalb, not being themselves candidates, are hereby authorized and required to preside at such elections for commissioners as aforesaid: And provided, that nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to prevent the re-election of any commissioner pursuant to this act.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that should there be no election held on the day pointed out by this act, for that cause this act shall not be void, but an election may be held on any other day within three months, a justice of the peace, or justice of the Inferior Court, first advertising in said town ten days before said election.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that said commissioners shall have full power to extend the corporation laws over all the lots and land adjoining said town, agreeable to the plan of said town, which may be laid off for county purposes.

DAVID ADAMS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THOMAS STOCKS,
President of the Senate.

Assented to December 10, 1823.
G. M. TROUP, Governor."[17]

During the same year, 1823, McDonough and Fayetteville were designated as the seats of government of Henry and Fayette counties respectively.[18]

Fayetteville was named for the county in which it is situated, while Decatur and McDonough commemorate the memory of two naval officers, both of whom made history during the war against Tripoli in 1804 and in the War of 1812. They were Stephen Decatur and Thomas McDonough. Indeed a concomitant of all the wars involving the United States has been a flowering of place names.

Some months prior to its affirmation by the Legislature as the county site, Land Lot 246 became the candidate for physical improvement. The chore of surveying fell to James Diamond,[19] one of the first settlers. Diamond lived in the eastern part of the county, north of the future town of Lithonia. The section in which he lived is known to this day as Diamond's Militia District. When the surveying was completed town lots were sold at auction. The court-house lot was cleared and a small log structure, adequate for the limited official business of the new county, was erected on the north side of the present square.

The first jail was built about the same time. It also was a small log building and stood on North McDonough Street a short distance south of the court-house square. The first floor of this structure constituted the dungeon or cell in which the worst criminals were confined. There was no door or opening in the solid wall of this first floor, the entrance to it being through a trap door in the top or second floor from which interior steps led down. Entrance to the second floor was gained by stairs on the outside of the building. This formidable little bastille served the county for some twenty years.[20]

Before going further into the physical development of De Kalb County it might be well to record the names of the officers under whom these pioneer efforts were being forwarded.

It has already been noted that the Justices of the Inferior Court were, by legislative act, made responsible for the conduct of general county business.

Of the original panel of five Justices to serve De Kalb, three were commissioned in Fayette and two in Henry. They were:

Charles Gates, Sr. Joseph D. Shumate William Baker	Commissioned February 6, 1822 in Fayette County
Absalom Steward Andrew Camp	Commissioned March 4, 1822, from Henry and retained in De Kalb[21]

Only one member of this group yet resided in De Kalb when Atlanta was incorporated as the City of Atlanta in 1847. He was Absolam Steward, of Diamond's District, near Stone Mountain, the progenitor of a large family many descendants of whom continue to live, as good citizens of De Kalb and Fulton counties. The late John Barnett Steward, well known attorney of Decatur, was a grandson.

Joseph D. Shumate was a son-in-law of J. McC. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree and moved to Walker County, Georgia, about the time it was created from part of the Cherokee Indian country.

The first ministerial officers of De Kalb County were all commissioned in Fayette County on March 18, 1822. John S. Welch, Sheriff; Thomas A. Dobbs, Clerk, Superior Court; Jonathan Dobbs, Clerk, Inferior Court; John Calhoun, Coroner; James Adams, Surveyor.

All served until January 15, 1824, except Sheriff Welch, who resigned May 31, 1823. He was succeeded in office by Lochlin Johnson.[22] It will be remembered that Thomas A. Dobbs was also one of the original commissioners of the Town of Decatur.

The first official family of De Kalb was completed by the commissioning of several justices of the peace, as follows:

Name	When Com^{d}.	Militia District
Frederick Hilsback	April 17, 1823	469
Daniel Gober	June 3, 1823	524
James Jett	June 3, 1823	524
John Henry	July 3, 1823	487
	(cut off in new district, July 26, 1824)	
James Blackstock	July 17, 1823	530
Oliver Houston	July 17, 1823	530
Joseph Hubbard	August 9, 1823	531
Micajah Harris	December 11, 1823	531
James Hendley	June 7, 1824	563
Matthew R. Grace	July 26, 1824	487[23]

While these original numbered militia districts have been considerably divided through the years, they correspond roughly with the following present districts:

469,	Collins' and Center Hill Districts, Fulton.
524,	Shallowford District, De Kalb.
487,	Phillips' District, De Kalb.
530,	Blackhall and South Bend Districts, Fulton.
531,	Decatur District, De Kalb.
563,	Diamond's District, De Kalb.

It is unfortunate that no records of the Superior Court of De Kalb County exist prior to the minutes of the March, 1836, term. They were destroyed in the 1842 court house fire but exist back to 1836 because the then current book began with that term. Happily for historians, Clerk John Glen had the book at home in an effort to catch up with his work.

Therefore, it is impossible to identify grand and petit jurors for the first fourteen years of the county's annals or to refer to grand jury presentments for the interesting history they must have set forth.

Clerk Elzey B. Reynolds of the Inferior Court was probably burning extra candles at home too for the minutes of his court are intact from the beginning. They show that the first Inferior Court jury was drawn July 29, 1823, consisting of the following twenty-five good men and true:

1. Britain Smith
2. Thomas Hendrick
3. William Hill
4. Augustine Young
5. William Hudspeth
6. Theofilus Jett
7. Richard Grogin
8. William Hardman
9. John McDaniel
10. Davis Rollings
11. William McCarter
12. Henry Grogin
13. William Heard
14. William Watts
15. Henry Logan
16. Nathan Jordan
17. John Carter
18. William Carter
19. Anson Williams
20. Joseph Hill
21. John Morris
22. Loftin Fannin
23. William Wiley
24. Isaac Towers, Junr.
25. John Beasley[24]

No business within the jurisdiction of the Inferior Court was more pressing in these early years than the urgent necessity of opening roads and bridging creeks. Citizens living on the banks of the Chattahoochee River might, when summoned to Decatur for jury duty, ride a horse or mule through the woods or along one or more of the Indian trails then existing. But for the moving of goods or appreciable numbers of people these primitive byways were wholly unsuited. As previously noted, Peachtree Road had been opened in 1814 from Fort Daniel at Hog Mountain in Gwinnett County to Standing Peachtree. But it did not connect with the new county seat.

So the honorable Inferior Court justices confronted the road and bridge problem with gusto. Indeed the first order of business, while the Court was still meeting at William Jackson's house and before Decatur came into being, was the issuance of the following orders:

"1. Ordered that James McC. Montgomery, Henry Logan and Ebenezer Pitts be commissioners of roads in the 17th district formerly Henry now Fayette County.

2. Ordered that Samuel Prewett, T. A. Dobbs and James Hicks be commissioners of roads in the 14th district Fayette and the 14th district formerly Henry now Fayette County.

3. Ordered that the road leading from standing peachtree to Gwinnett county known by the hog mountain road be a public road and that the same be kept and put in repair.
4. Ordered that there be a new road cut out from the Peachtree the nearest and convenientest route to intersect with the Boundary Line at or near Sandtown."

These orders were dated Monday, May 20, 1823.[25]

Five days later, on May 25, the Inferior Court created a new militia district, in the following language:

"Ordered that the following boundaries shall form and constitute one militia district, to wit: beginning at Thomas Carroll's on the Hightower trace thence a direct line to the nearest prong of peachtree creek thence down said creek to Abraham Chandlers, thence a direct line to the mouth of long island Creek thence up the Chattahoochee to the dividing line between the counties of De Kalb and Gwinnett, thence along said line to the . . . Thomas Carroll's."[26]

These boundaries indicate that the new militia district included most, if not all, of the territory incorporated a few years later in the Buckhead and Cross Keys districts. Thomas Carroll's house must have stood about where Peachtree road and the Hightower trace (or trail) intersect at the De Kalb-Gwinnett line; Abraham Chandler resided at the present intersection of La Vista road and Buford Highway (Cheshire Bridge Road), while Long Island creek empties into the Chattahoochee on the line between land lots 213 and 214 of the 17th district and almost exactly halfway between the Pace's and Power's Ferry road bridges.

The order creating the new militia district possesses added interest because it marks the earliest reference to Long Island creek, by name. The writer is unable to definitely place the origin of the name but hazards the opinion that since the creek enters the river opposite the upper end of an island nearly 800 feet long that it is appropriately named. (See Plate No. 51, Topographical Survey City of Atlanta and Vicinity, 1930.)

With the county site definitely established in lot No. 246 it became necessary to open roads from various sections of the county so that the citizens could reach Decatur to attend to business. Therefore, on July 28, 1823, the following order was passed by the Inferior Court:

"Whereas there are many applicants to this court for new roads to be cut out from lot No. 246 in the 15th district of said county, the permanent site in and for De Kalb County, and as good roads attend greatly to facilitate the community at large and promote the interest of the public generally, we feel willing to grant the petitions of our citizens so far as appears reasonable. Therefore we have appointed the several persons hereinafter named to view and designate the different routes on which roads are intended to pass if found to be of public utility agreeably to an Act of the General Assembly passed in the year 1818:

Joseph Hill, Britain Smith, Mathew Henry, Burrill Smith, and Joseph Hubbard—from Rock Bridge to said lot 246.

Charles Harris, Joel Pritchett, Namon Hardman, Meredith Collier, and Joseph Morris—from the Standing Peach Tree to said lot.

D. R. Tillman, John Lawless, Abraham Gatehouse, Peter Brown, and James H. Knoll—from said lot toward Fayetteville to the county line.

Namon Hardman, Silas McGrady, Greenville Pullin, James Galier, and William Anderson—from the Shallowford to said lot.

Joel Swinney, David Telford, John Gunn, James Swinney, and John Townsend—from said lot to intersect with the road leading from Covington, Newton County, to De Kalb court house at the dividing line between said counties.

William Jordan, Stephens Williams, John Morris, Reuben Braselton, and Thornton Ward—from said lot to lot No. 10 in said district.

Joseph Woodall, William Stoker, Charles Anderson, Zachariah Jordan, and Evan Jenkins—from said lot to intersect with the river road somewhere between the Utoy and Camp Creek.[27]

The basic roads thus provided for on July 28, 1823, are still substantially in existence although their courses have been altered to some extent and their names changed for the most part.

The Rock Bridge Road, leading into Gwinnett County across Yellow River east of Stone Mountain passes Indian Creek church south of Clarkston and enters Decatur via East Ponce de Leon Avenue. It is still called Rock Bridge Road throughout most of its length.

The road from Standing Peachtree later came to be known as the Montgomery Ferry Road and enters Decatur via West Ponce de Leon Avenue.

The present Fayetteville road in Decatur is part of the original road leading from Decatur to that neighboring county seat.

Shallowford Road, leading from Decatur to the Chattahoochee River near the present Roswell bridge, leaves Decatur via Clairmont Avenue.

The Covington Road, from Decatur to that point, followed substantially its present course via Avondale, Lithonia and Conyers and entered Decatur on what is now East College Avenue.

The road to lot No. 10 is the Decatur-McDonough road via Panthersville and intersects land lot No. 10 at the Henry County line.

The road to intersect with the river road between Utoy and Camp Creek was, in all probability, the old Sandtown, now Cascade Road. To reach Decatur it may have followed the present course of Gordon Street, West Whitehall, and Peters streets, thence through Five Points east to Decatur. This is conjecture since the writer is not in possession of definite evidence as to the exact route of the road.

It is interesting to note that Utoy Creek was called by that name in 1823. The name is doubtless considerably older, but how much older is not known. It may be of Indian origin. However, in making this cautious assertion, the writer is aware of a tendency to credit the Indians, often erroneously, with the origination of names to which no other definite origin can be assigned.

The authority to establish ferries across the Chattahoochee rested with the State Legislature. The first such franchise issued in De Kalb County was to William Blake in 1823.[28]

The exact location is not definitely known, but this ferry is believed to have been the predecessor of Nelson's Ferry. William Blake's orphans were living in Howell's (now Bryant's) District of De Kalb (now Fulton) County in 1827. Blake procured the franchise, but Nelson apparently bought him out at once.[29]

The eastern landing of Nelson's Ferry was on fractional land lot 20 of the 14th district, near the mouth of Sandy Creek and about midway between the present Bankhead Highway and Garrett's bridges. Nelson paid in installments, for the land on which the ferry was located, and it was not until 1827, after his death, that the state issued a grant to the land. The ferry was then being run for the benefit of his heirs.[30]

De Kalb County was not quite prepared to take full care of the first bit of criminal business that came its way as will be seen from the Executive Minutes for Friday, May 9, 1823, under the heading of Pardons by Governor Clark:

"Whereas at a Superior Court held in and for the County of De Kalb at April Term, 1823, before the Hon. Eli S. Shorter, one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of this State, Allen Burch was convicted of voluntary manslaughter and was thereupon sentenced by the court in the following words, to wit: '. . . the defendant be taken by the sheriff, from the bar of this court, to the Common Jail of Gwinnett County, there being no Safe Jail in De Kalb County, . . .' Having considered . . . Remit the further execution of said Sentence, so far as it related to his imprisonment, and the said Allen Burch is ordered to be forthwith discharged, on payment of said fine and costs."

The subject of education was not overlooked in this pioneer year of 1823, for under an Act of the Legislature dated November 18, John B. Nelson, Zachariah Holloway, Jacob R. Brooks, Joseph Morris, Joseph D. Shumate, Reuben Cone, and James Blackstock were appointed Commissioners of the Academy for De Kalb County. Even so, public schools for all were still many years in the future.

The poor folks are ever with us and this lamentably universal situation was taken cognizance of by the Inferior Court of De Kalb County on July 28, 1823, when it appointed Abraham Chandler and John Morris overseers of the poor in and for the county.[31]

De Kalb County contributed one new senator and one new representative to the General Assembly of 1823. The senator was our old friend J. McC. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree, while James Hicks was sent to the House.[32]

Those portions of Henry and Fayette counties out of which De Kalb was created, held, at that time, approximately 2500 persons.[33]

These original settlers of De Kalb were plain people, primarily of English, Scotch and Irish descent. They came mostly from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina, particularly the latter.[34] Some of the older northeastern counties of Georgia sent fairly large contingents of pioneers. Franklin County was quite prolific in this respect, furnishing many of the first families to settle in southwestern De Kalb, now southwestern Fulton County.[35]

For the most part the pioneers were poor and meagerly educated, but were generally industrious and temperate, qualities needed in the wilderness they sought to conquer. Their original homes were usually log cabins, owner built and occupied.[36] The unit of land ownership was, primarily, one land lot of 202½ acres, although holdings of two to five land lots were not rare and fractional holdings were numerous. The individual ownership of slaves was small. Possession of a dozen or more was the exception rather than the rule and the majority of the early citizens, down to the time of the Emancipation Proclamation, owned none, or at the most, one or two house servants. Large plantations, such as were known in the older East and Middle Georgia counties, did not exist in early De Kalb.[37]

Articles used in everyday life, with the exceptions of coffee, salt and sugar, were made at home. The early settlers wove and dyed the cloth from which they made their clothes; they tanned leather and made their own shoes. For the most part they made their own tools, wagons and harness, while itinerant hatters supplied most of the headgear.

Cooking was done in pots, ovens and skillets before large open fireplaces, wide and high enough to receive large logs. The water supply came chiefly from springs, sometimes quite a distance from the house. The digging of wells was rarely attempted until later years.

Light was made by torch pine or from homemade tallow candles. There were no friction matches and people "borrowed fire" from each other or produced it by means of flint, steel and "punk".

Travel, by foot, horseback or wagon, was slow and laborious over the trails that served for roads. Amusements were confined mostly to dancing, quiltings, log rollings, shooting matches, gander pulling and horse racing.

Fortunately for the illumination of posterity, an occasional pioneer citizen was either inspired to reduce his recollections to writing or to submit to an interview.

During the spring and summer of 1901 the De Kalb *Standard* published a series of sketches entitled "Pioneers of De Kalb" by Albert Miles Hairston,[38] the son of a De Kalb pioneer and himself a resident of the county since its creation. His recollections deserve a more permanent repository than the evanescent pages to which they were originally committed, and are herewith quoted in their most significant aspects.

"Judge[39] William Hairston, father of this writer, was born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, June 6, 1801. His parents were Peter and Martha Hairston, who, before their children were grown, moved from Abbeville District (they were called districts instead of counties at that time) to Gwinnett county, Georgia. There William Hairston married Lavinia Towers, eldest daughter of Isaac Towers, May 6, 1819 on Red Creek."

"The next day after their marriage, which occurred at the home of the bride's parents, a reception ('infair' it was called in those days) was given at the home of the groom's parents. On that day the bridal party rode on horseback to the 'infair', when forty young people met them on the road, each riding a fine charger, and escorted them to the home of the groom. On their arrival they rode three times around the house. That was the style in those days. That scene occurred within a quarter of a mile where Lilburn[40] now stands, as that town was built on my grandfather's plantation."

"This writer was born a mile and a half southwest of Lawrenceville, Georgia, March 20, 1820.[41] My father, Judge William Hairston, was an early settler of De Kalb county. He came here with the Towers brothers in February of 1822 and broke forrest on Boboshela creek when there were only six families in De Kalb."[42]

"The Hairstons are of Scotch descent, Sam Hairston, the progenitor of the family in America, having come over from Scotland at the first settling of Virginia. . . ."

"Sam Hairston had three grandsons, William, Peter and John, who migrated to South Carolina from Virginia before the Revolution. The William Hairston who moved from Virginia to South Carolina was grandfather to Judge William Hairston and was my great grandfather. Peter Hairston, son of old William, was my grandfather. He moved from Carolina to Gwinnett county in 1818. Judge William Hairston, my father, lived on the lot of land he settled, on Boboshela creek, until he died December 26, 1879 in his 78th year."[43]

". . . We resided on the west side of Boboshela one year and then moved on the east side in 100 yards of where my residence now stands. In the spring of 1827 my father made a 'house raising' and built a two story dwelling out of large hewn log. No mills then until father and grandfather Towers built one on Snapfinger Creek on my father's plantation. Later my father had his dwelling weatherboarded; then several years afterward added more rooms. This was his residence until his death."[44 & 45]

"Thomas Mehaffey was one of the 'settlers' of the early twenties. He came from South Carolina and settled on Boboshela creek, a tributary to Snapfinger. Boboshela ,is an Indian word meaning in English 'good pasture'. The hillsides along that creek were covered with rank wild peavines that afforded a splendid range for cattle."

"Snapfinger creek received its name from one of the men who fell down and broke his finger when the surveyors were surveying the land. My grandmother Elizabeth Towers, nee Akins, told me this. She moved here on Snapfinger the 2nd week in February, 1822, her husband, Isaac Towers, having purchased nearly 500 acres on Snapfinger in the spring of 1821."

"He and his brother William Towers cleared some of the land now owned by this writer, in 1821, and made a crop on it that year. It was the first timber cut anywhere on Snapfinger creek. The virgin forest had been unbroken by the woodsman's axe until then. Both creeks were fine ranges and were heavily timbered. I have heard my grandfather Isaac Towers and my father speak of this."

"They were from South Carolina and knew the Mehaffeys in the old Palmetto State. Thomas Mehaffey's descendants are still residing on the Boboshela plantation. He was a wheelwright by trade, and made all the spinning wheels that were made in this county for the women who carded, spun and made their own ginghams at home, for themselves and daughters. Everybody tried to excel her neighbor in making nice homespun dresses."

"When my parents and grandparents moved here in 1822 there were only six families in the county. There was a large unbroken range. Sheep went where they pleased, coming home occasionally to be salted. At the time of the new moon in September our fathers would go to the forest and drive the sheep home and shear them, and our mothers would wash the wool and card and spin it, as there were no factories here in the twenties."

"We boys were pressed in the spinning business also. Our mothers would have different kinds of bark brought in from the forest and dye the wool, some black and some brown, and if they wished to make a pair of grey jeans, they used white and black. To make a roan color they would mix brown and white. I wish I had a suit of it now like my mother used to make 60 years ago."

"Elijah Bankston was another early settler, moving to this county from Jackson county, Georgia, in 1822, and settling on Boboshela creek. He came originally from South Carolina and was an old Revolutionist—went out at 16 in the war with Great Britain. . . . He was the first justice of the peace after the organization of Evan's District. He was the grandfather of the Hon. James Jackson who occupies the king's palace—I mean the king's palace of 'Arabia' in De Kalb county.

"Thomas Mehaffey, wife and several children are interred on his plantation. It is known as the Smith and Mehaffey burial ground and is one of the oldest cemeteries in the county, next to those occupied by the aborigines."[46]

"Young Hall settled on Snapfinger creek in '22 on the lot of land that lies on the creek at the head of the mill pond, known as Mitchell's mill, owned by William and Dock Miller. Since William Miller's death, his sisters, Misses N. and E. Miller own William's interest. It was once thought to be the best land on the creek. Mr. Hall lived there several years, then sold out to a man by the name of Franklin for $2000. . . . Young Hall, after selling his land, moved to Walker county and died. . . ."

"Henry Watkins settled on the creek about the same time. He only lived three or four years and died, leaving his wife and three or four little children. He left her out of debt. She managed well and in a few years bought her a negro girl. She died before her children were hardly grown. Her eldest daughter soon married Leander Biffle, and they took care of the younger children. . . . The brother went to the Mexican war and died in 1847."[47]

"Zachariah Holloway built the third mill in De Kalb county. He was a 'Bible Christian' minister and leaves many descendants, all Christians and living uprightly. . . ."

"Merrell Collier moved into the county about 1820, where T. J. Flake now resides. He came there a poor man, I suppose and when he died was worth good property. He was a native of the Tar Heel State. He lived first in Jackson county until this county was opened up, when he moved here and settled at his old homestead, where he and his wife both died. Their remains are interred in Wesley Chapel cemetery. . . ."

"Merrell Collier raised a nice family of children, all girls except one. His daughter Charlotte married the Hon. Eli J. Hulsey, who brought up a family of noble children. Col. T. J. Flake married their daughter, Laura. They have brought up a family of bright noble children. This makes three generations of Merrell Collier's descendants brought up on the old Collier plantation, two miles south of Wesley Chapel and this place will be known for generations to come as the old 'Collier Place'.

"Merrell Collier's son, Henry studied medicine and after he finished his medical studies, took lectures. He married a Miss Wilson, and, after two children were born to this union, he died and was interred in Wesley Chapel cemetery.[48] Merrell Collier was, for a number of years, justice of the peace in Panthersville District."

"Jennings Hulsey, Sr., Eli Hulsey's father, was also living in the county and was a surveyor. He settled on South River below Panola. After a time he moved out a little way from the river and settled at what is known as the 'Cross Roads'. He brought up a noble family of sons and daughters. The sons were William, Eli and Green. Green studied medicine and became a physician. Dr. [Hayden] Coe, of Panola, married one of his daughters. His first wife died and left six or seven children. He married a second wife and two children blessed this second marriage."

"He had property and when he was very old he divided off to his first children what he intended them to have, and kept back what he intended his wife and two children to have. He then made a sale and sold off the surplus."

"I was at his sale and when they went to sell the horses he had them brought up to the yard fence. Then they helped him out to the fence, and he held up by the fence and cried like a child. It made him sad to part with his fine horses which he prized so highly. He knew that he could not live a great while and he seemed to want everything just to his notion while he lived. He was honest and upright in all his dealings. He was uneducated. He would not allow a man to impose on him. It is said that he never passed any words with a man, for it was a word and a blow and the blow came first."[49]

"Mrs. Mary Jane Bell, of Atlanta, was a daughter of Eli and Charlotte Hulsey and a granddaughter of Merrell Collier and Jennings Hulsey. . . . She has a son, Pye Bell, who, with his wife and family reside on his mother's portion of the Collier plantation. . . "[50 & 51]

So end the recollections of Albert Miles Hairston, who passed away the same year they were written. He served his own generation well and left to posterity a lantern with which to penetrate the darkness of a segment of the past.

Since Mr. Hairston has introduced Merrell Collier upon the stage of De Kalb County history, it will not be amiss at this point to introduce his twin brother, Meredith Collier.

The brothers were born in Randolph County, North Carolina. Meredith arrived in De Kalb via Gwinnett County early in 1823 and acquired extensive land holdings on Peachtree Creek, Merrell having settled on South River. The twins resembled each other in personal appearance but Merrell was more fond of the so-called luxuries of life. In politics Merrell was a Whig and Meredith a Democrat. It is said that many friendly political arguments resulted.[52]

Meredith Collier and his wife Elizabeth Gray became the parents of fourteen children.[53] Of these, the best known, in later years, were Edwin G., George Washington, John, Wesley G. and Andrew J. More about them later. They were too young to make history in the 1820's. Suffice it to say here that many of the descendants of Meredith Collier are among Atlanta's best citizens of the present.

NOTES—CHAPTER 1

[1] Thomas P. Janes, *Hand-Book of Georgia* (Atlanta, 1876), 159-160.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] McLendon, *Public Domain,* 128-129.

[4] Janes, *Hand-Book of Georgia,* 163.

[5] The Inferior Courts, in addition to minor judicial powers had jurisdiction over election matters, the administration of estates, and over all county matters. They were abolished in 1868, their functions being largely absorbed by County ordinaries.

[6] Militia Districts.

[7] The 14th and 17th Land Districts were cut off to De Kalb County the following year, and, in 1853, became Fulton County, as originally constituted.

[8] *Ga. Laws,* 1821, pp. 44-46.

[9] *Ibid.,* 42-43.

[10] A. Hollis Edens, "The Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XVIII (July, 1939), 206.

[11] *Ga. Laws,* 1822, p. 21.

[12] *Ibid.,* 21-22.

[13] The late Charles Murphey Candler, of Decatur, in a printed address, made in 1922, upon the occasion of the Centennial of De Kalb County, located the William Jackson house in the following language: "Jackson's house was on the McDonough Road, which at that time came into Decatur along the route of the present McDonough Street, about a mile south from this Court House, in the field just beyond Mr. S. S. Smith's house on South Candler Street, and on the west side of my father's [Milton A. Candler's] old homestead farm on which I was reared."

Miss Annie Jones, of Decatur, in March, 1950, was kind enough to give the present writer a fragment of the printed article containing the above quotation. Unfortunately it is neither dated nor identified as to name of publication.

The widow of S. S. Smith, living at 221 E. Ponce de Leon Avenue, Decatur, informed the present writer on May 28, 1950, that she and her late husband owned and occupied the property at the southeast corner of South Candler Street and Kirk Road for many years prior to 25 years ago, and that the old Milton A. Candler place was just east of their home.

The former Smith property, and that for some distance south, is in Land Lot No. 214 of the 15th District, which, in addition to Land Lots 203, 215, and 235, was once the property of William Jackson. He sold 120 acres of Lot 214 to Peter F. Hoyle on Oct. 6, 1843, for $465. See De Kalb County Deed Book H, page 221. Also pages 8 and 220 of

Book H; Book N, page 41, and Book O, page 290. Therefore Jackson's home must have stood on the east side of the old McDonough Road (now S. Chandler Street) a short distance south of Kirk Road, which would place it approximately one mile south of the De Kalb County Court House.

In 1945 a granite boulder was erected on the grounds of an ancient two-story weatherboarded house at 250 S. Chandler Road, 3 miles from Decatur. A bronze tablet attached to the boulder bears the following inscription:

THE FIRST SUPERIOR COURT
OF DE KALB COUNTY
MET ON THIS SITE
THE HOME OF WILLIAM JACKSON
SPRING OF 1823
ERECTED 1945
BARON DE KALB CHAPTER D.A.R.

While the patriotic ladies of this chapter are to be highly commended for their interest in marking historic spots in so tangible a manner, the present writer respectfully advances the thought that the marker is located about a mile and a half too far south. The old home is convincing enough in appearance, but it was the home of Daniel E. Jackson (1796-1869), a De Kalb pioneer who settled on this location in the 1840's, many years after William Jackson (not related) settled farther north on the same road. Daniel Jackson's home is in Land Lot 151, and there is no record that William Jackson ever owned property in that land lot. It is true that Daniel E., had a son named William, but the latter was not born until 1824. The Daniel Jackson home, practically in its original state, is now (May, 1950) occupied by Mrs. T. C. Jackson, a very gracious lady and widow of Thomas C. Jackson, a grandson of Daniel E.

[14] *Ga. Laws,* 1822, p. 25.

[15] John D. Humphries, "The Organization of De Kalb County", *A.H.B.*, XXXII (Dec. 1947), 19.

[16] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 21, 1937.

[17] *Ga. Laws,* 1823, pp. 169-170.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] Lucian Lamar Knight, *Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials and Legends* (2 vols. Atlanta, 1913), I, 511. Hereafter cited as Knight, *Landmarks.*

[20] *De Kalb New Era,* Feb. 15, 1923.

[21] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1823. This old book, covering the period from 1823 to 1867, survived the court house fire of 1842, and is the only existing De Kalb County record book of its age.

[22] Executive Minutes, State of Georgia, Dept. of Archives and History, Atlanta.

[23] *Ibid.,* 1823, p. 108.

[24] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1823. Spelling of names follows original record.

[25] *Ibid.,* 1. The 14th and 17th Districts of Fayette were soon transferred to De Kalb, and were cut off to create Fulton County in 1853. Order No. 3 pertained to the original Peachtree Road leading to Standing Peachtree. Order No. 4 provided for the opening of what was for many years known as Old Peachtree Road, leading from Standing Peachtree to Sandtown. It followed roughly the present Bolton Road from Bolton to Adamsville; Fairburn Road from Adamsville to old Sandtown, now Cascade Road; thence to Sandtown on the Chattahoochee River.

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] *Ibid.,* 2.

[28] *Ga. Laws,* 1823, p. 122.

[29] Stephens Mitchell, "The Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *A.H.B.,* VII (June, 1933), 35-36.

[30] *Ibid.,* 36.

[31] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1.

[32] Vital statistics relative to James Hicks have thus far eluded the present writer. That he had either died or moved from De Kalb by 1830, is indicated by the absence of his name from the U. S. Census of the county for that year.

[33] Charles Murphy Candler, *De Kalb County Centennial Celebration at Decatur, Georgia, November 9, 1922, Historical Address,* (Decatur, Ga., 1922), 3. Hereafter cited as Murphey, *De Kalb County.*

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] "Garrett's Necrology". Unpublished material concerning the people of De Kalb and Fulton counties. Collected by the present writer during the past twenty-two years, and comprising cemetery records and inscriptions; extracts from court house records, local vital statistics, and Family Bibles; newspaper obituaries; U. S. Census records; transcripts of interviews with old citizens, now deceased, etc. It is hoped by the writer that much of this material now in his possession will be published some years hence. Cited throughout as "Garrett's Necrology".

[36] Candler, "De Kalb County", *loc. cit.,* 3.

[37] Based upon conclusions reached by the present writer after an exhaustive study of De Kalb and Fulton county inventories and appraisements of estates down to 1900.

[38] Born March 11, 1820; died Dec. 23, 1901. Tombstone, Wesley Chapel Cemetery, De Kalb County.

[39] Judge Inferior Court, De Kalb, Jan. 15, 1841-Jan. 4, 1849.

[40] Lilburn is a present day station on the Seaboard Railway between Tucker and Lawrenceville in Gwinnett County.

[41] There is a nine day discrepancy between this date and the corresponding date upon the tombstone. See Note 38.

[42] They arrived several months before De Kalb was cut off from Henry County.

[43] Mr. Hairston, like most reminiscing pioneers, erred slightly as to dates. His father's will was probated Aug. 5, 1879.

[44] The Hairston property was just north of the present Covington Road where the road crosses Snapfinger Creek.

[45] *De Kalb Standard,* Aug. 16, 1901.

[46] Site of cemetery visited by the present writer on Nov. 11, 1931. Located in Land Lot 2, 16th District, De Kalb. No inscribed markers.

[47] *De Kalb Standard,* Mar. 15, 1901.

[48] Dr. Henry G. Collier was born May 4, 1820 and died Feb. 1, 1850. His father, Merrell, lived from May 10, 1782 to June 9, 1855. Tombstone inscriptions copied by the present writer, July 18, 1931.

[49] The tombstone of Jennings Hulsey, in the ancient family cemetery on the bank of South River in Land Lot 48 of the 16th District of DeKalb, recites that the old pioneer died Dec. 16, 1850, in the 85th year of his age. Cemetery visited by present writer Sept. 18, 1931.

[50] *De Kalb Standard,* June 7, 1901.

[51] Piromis H. Bell, retired Atlanta lawyer, born 1858 and still living in 1950, aged 92, yet resides on the Collier place, although the original Merrell Collier home burned during the 1920's.

[52] "Garrett's Necrology".

[53] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 2

1824

DURING 1824 while Andrew Jackson, of Tennessee, John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts, and William H. Crawford, of Georgia, ran a three-cornered race for the presidency, Adams winning, De Kalb County attained a free white population of 3569.[1] The town of Decatur could now boast a jail, an academy and about fifty houses and stores.[2] George Clifton joined James Hicks in the Georgia house of representatives from De Kalb,[3] while Lochlin Johnson succeeded J. McC. Montgomery as State Senator from the county.[4]

On January 15, the first slate of officers, elected entirely in and for De Kalb County, took office. They were: George Harris, Sheriff; Thomas A. Dobbs, Clerk, Superior Court; Daniel Stone, Clerk, Inferior Court; Willeford Grogan, Coroner, and Bennet Conine, Surveyor. Dobbs was the only holdover from the former regime.[5] The Inferior Court, on November 1, authorized Daniel Stone to purchase a county seal,[6] thus completing the official organization of the county.

That elections were not always conducive to universal public satisfaction, in the early days of De Kalb, or for that matter since, is indicated by the Executive Minutes of Tuesday, April 20, 1824:

"The election held on the 19th ultimo for Colonel, Lieut. Colonel and Tax Collector for the County of De Kalb, held under the superintendence of Micajah Harris, Joseph Hubbard and James White having been protested by several persons of said County (among whom are some of the successful candidates) on the ground that the election was not held in conformity with the public notice, having been advertised for the 20th of March but held on the day preceding, it is therefore,

Ordered that unless the fact stated in the protest be disproved, a new election be proceeded to in terms of the law, and a return thereof made to this department."

The twin beacons of civilized communities, churches and schools, began to shine modestly in De Kalb during 1824, although the first ray of organized religious life became discernible July 30, 1823, when the Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, in the southeast portion of the county, was constituted by Rev. Luke Robinson and Rev. Isaiah Parker, at the request of brethren in the vicinity.

The first pastor was Rev. Luke Robinson and the first clerk, Israel Hendon, while among the charter members were John Biffle, James Phillips, Joseph Wooten, James R. George, Israel Hendon, and John Stephenson.[7]

The Constitution and Rules of Conduct provided among other requirements, that no member could absent himself or herself from a conference or congregational meeting without leave of the Moderator or Pastor. Two such absences constituted cause for discipline. Another requirement was that the appellations to be used in all conferences or congregational meetings must be Brother and Sister.[8]

There is no existing evidence to disprove the fact that Macedonia is the oldest church in De Kalb, including that portion cut off into Fulton in 1853.[9]

Under the weatherbeaten box tombs, slabs, field stones, and under no tomb stones at all, rests the dust of many of the earliest citizens of De Kalb in the ancient burial ground adjoining the church. It is located on the Stone Mountain-Panola Road in Land Lot No. 44 of the 16th District.

Three churches, all still in existence, were organized in De Kalb County in 1824. They were Mount Gilead Methodist, in April,[10] Nancy Creek Primitive Baptist, in July[11] and Utoy Primitive Baptist in August.[12]

Mount Gilead was organized by Rev. William J. Parks, in the extreme southwestern part of the county, as the Mount Gilead Society.[13] The first sermon was preached on April 24 by Rev. John M. Smith, at his house where he and his neighbors were gathered.[14] A camp meeting ground was soon established whereupon foregathered in August of each year members of such pioneer families of the neighborhood as the Smiths, Olivers, Bakers, Barges, Holbrooks, De Foors, Peacocks, Redwines, Cashes and other banner bearers of old-time Methodism.[15] Both the church and the camp meeting ground are near Ben Hill in what is now southwestern Fulton County, although prior to 1880 Ben Hill was known as Mount Gilead Cross Roads.[16]

Nancy Creek was the first of many subsequent churches to be built on Peachtree Road and was organized July 3, 1824. It is located in Cross Keys District between Oglethorpe University and Chamblee where the main line of the Southern Railway to Washington divides its venerable graveyard in two sections. Among the long standing tenants of the old cemetery are such pioneers of the district as Solomon Goodwin, Sr., Charles Rainey, Ichabod Williams, James W. Reeve, William Johnston, James Polk, Starling Goodwin, Laughlin Arendall, John Blake, and John Y. Flowers.[17]

Utoy, third of the church group organized in 1824, began with a membership of eleven on August 15, in a log house without floor, half a mile west of its present site, which is one mile west of Lee Street on Utoy Road. John Landers and James Hale, Elders, officiated at the organization. The church was moved to its present site in the summer of 1828, deed to which site was executed by John Towndson and John Holley.[18]

The discipline exercised over members of Utoy is illustrated in hearings before the church. Members were cited for non-attendance, for failure to commune, for drunkenness, fighting and other misconduct. Confessions of guilt and expression of regret were sufficient to receive forgiveness. One member was excluded for "moving into the Indian country and other misconduct"; another for "running race paths"; another for failing to attend the church conferences for twelve months.[19]

Numerically, the membership of Utoy has had its ups and downs. However, it is singular that one hundred and nine years after its organization, in 1933, the members numbered eleven, the same number with which it started.[20]

The church cemetery at Utoy is distinguished by the presence of the mortal remains of Dr. Joshua Gilbert, first resident physician of the future City of Atlanta. A substantial monument marks his grave.[21]

It is unfortunate that Utoy Road, upon which the church is located, has of very recent years borne the meaningless and unimaginative appellation of Venetian Drive.

In the early years of De Kalb County, indeed until slavery was abolished, there were no Negro churches. Slaves were often allowed to become members of white churches and in the larger town churches provision was always made for the separate seating of slaves, usually in galleries. It was a general custom of slave owners, who were members of the church, to give their slaves religious instruction, the field workers in some one of their cabins, and the house servants around the family altars of their masters.[22]

Up to this time, indeed not for many years to come, was there anything in Georgia approaching a free system of schools for the benefit of all. Many so-called academies had been established in most of the counties, including De Kalb. These, however, were available only to children whose parents could afford the payment of fees for their education.

The treaty with the Creeks at Indian Springs in 1821, by which was acquired the land from which De Kalb and other counties were created, inspired Wilson Lumpkin, future governor of Georgia, to write a letter to Governor John Clarke. This letter suggested the advisability of setting aside a part of the territory acquired as an endowment for the establishment of a permanent fund for internal improvements and the education of the whole people.[23]

"Free schools" had been discussed in Georgia since 1783 and their feasibility had been bandied about in the legislature since 1817, when an act was passed which set apart $250,000 for "the future establishment of Free Schools" throughout the state.[24]

Even so, many prominent citizens, including Governor Clarke himself, thought a system of free schools impracticable and that a poor school fund would not suit the temper of the people. It was argued then, as later, that there was no more justification in taking a man's money to pay for the "schooling" of his neighbor's children than to take his plow and team to till another man's field.[25]

In spite of all adverse opinion upon the subject, the legislature of 1822 passed an act to dispose of and distribute the Bank Dividends and other net proceeds of the Poor School Fund among the different counties of this State. It was assented to on December 23, 1822, by Governor Clarke and provided:

> 1. That it shall be the duty of the justices of the Inferior Courts of the different counties of this state to appoint one or more fit and proper persons in their respective counties, not exceeding one to each Captain's [Militia] district, to superintend the education of the poor children of said county.
>
> 2. That it shall be the duty of the persons so appointed, to make out a list of the names of the poor children of their county or district, as the case may be, and return the same to the justices aforesaid, on the first Monday in May next, whose duty it shall be to examine the same and make a return of the number, certified under their hands and seals, to his excellency the Governor, on or before the first day of June next; but no child shall be returned by said justices, whose parents or estate pays a tax exceeding fifty cents over and above their poll tax.
>
> 3. That it shall be the duty of his excellency the Governor to cause the sum of $12,000 of the bank dividends and other net proceeds of the poor school fund to be divided among the different counties, in proportion to the number of poor children returned as above, which shall be paid to such persons as the Inferior Court may empower to receive the same.
>
> 4. That it shall be the duty of the person or persons so appointed, to cause any of the poor children so returned to go to school at such schools as may be convenient in their respective neighborhoods; and the teacher shall present his account to one of the justices aforesaid, whose duty it shall be to order the same paid where it shall appear just: Provided, That no child shall be sent to school and paid for out of said fund, where such child has been taught reading, writing, and the usual rules of arithmetic.

5. That it shall be the duty of said justices to make a report to the Senatus Academicus[26] by their Senator, of their actings and doings in the premises, accompanied with such remarks as they may think proper to make on the utility of the plan here adopted, and recommend such other plan as they may think would be most likely to produce the benefits intended.

6. That no child shall be sent to school under the age of eight years, or exceeding eighteen years; and no child shall be sent to school at public expense more than three years.

7. That it shall be the duty of the superintendents in each district, to take a census of the children, as well poor as rich, and female as well as male, between the ages of eight and eighteen years, and deliver the same to the Senator elect of their county, who shall consolidate the said returns, and lay such consolidated return before the next legislature.[27]

Agreeably to this Act, the Inferior Court of De Kalb on July 28, 1823, appointed the following, as fit and proper persons to superintend the education of poor children in the respective districts: Jacob R. Brooks for the Shallow Ford district; Joseph Morris for Captain Merritt's district; Samuel Prewitt for Captain Stagg's district; George Harris for Captain Hughy's district; James Blackstock for the 14th district, formerly Henry; James White for Captain Standifer's district; David R. Pillam for Captain Jordan's district.

While the operation of the educational system based upon this act was faulty in many respects, it at least represented a start in providing free facilities for even the least of our citizens.

In 1824 the State Poor School Fund amounted to $19,999.36. Population of the then existing 58 counties was 223,305. Upon this basis De Kalb County, with a population of 3569, participated to the extent of $319.65, or nine cents per person.[28] During the same year warrant issued for $315.00 in favor of Commissioners of De Kalb County Academy, it being their proportionate share of the money in the Treasury subject to distribution among the different counties.[29] The De Kalb Academy fund for 1825 amounted to $236.67.[30]

Despite the growth of churches and the planting of the seeds of education, all of De Kalb's early citizens were by no means orderly or strictly law abiding. Personal encounters were a fairly frequent occurrence.

It is recorded[31] that in 1824, Nathan W. Wansley, the then village blacksmith of Decatur, had a piece of his nose bitten off in a fight. His antagonist, whose name has not been preserved, was indicted and found guilty of "mayhem." It was during the interval between the abolishment of penitentiary confinement and its re-establishment by the legislature. Consequently the culprit was punished under the old law of standing in the stocks and imprisonment. The ordeal of standing in the pillory was much modified by the sheriff, George Harris, who hung a blanket before the entrance to the porch in the jail so that passersby might not have their attention called to the situation.

The earliest reference to Nancy Creek by that name is in connection with the organization of Nancy Creek Church in 1824, although it is sometimes quoted as Nance's Creek. The exact origin of the name is, to some extent, moot, Proponents of Nance claim that the creek was named for an Indian, usually a chief, who lived somewhere along the creek one hundred and fifty years or so ago. No proof has ever been offered in connection with this assertion.

The writer believes that Nancy is the correct name of the creek, and its namesakes including the church and the road. The following article from the Atlanta *Constitution* of Wednesday, January 31, 1883, lends support to this belief:

"THE BIGGEST FAMILY

The widow of Mr. John L. Evins, late of this county, is living, stout and hearty. She is now 85 years old. She is the mother of 11 children, 57 grandchildren and 93 great grandchildren. Her maiden name was [Nancy][32] Baugh. She was a sister of the late William Baugh, of Gwinnett county and came to what later became Fulton county in 1818, and settled with her husband on Nancy Creek in this county when the Indians were here. This creek was named for her. Mrs. Evins, the mother of Mr. J. C. Evins of this city, is still living at the old homestead settled 65 years ago. Who can beat that for an old inhabitant?"

John Leroy Evins, a native of South Carolina, was certainly one of the original settlers of De Kalb and one of its most substantial. He purchased a large body of land along Nancy Creek including acre upon acre of choice bottom land. Included in his holdings were all of land lots 13, 40 and 41 in the 17th district of then De Kalb, now Fulton County.[33] The homeplace was in land lot 13 very close to the present intersection of Peachtree-Dunwoody and House roads and overlooking the valley of Nancy Creek. What name the creek bore when he arrived is not remembered, but that he named it for his bride about 1820 is a logical if not thoroughly proven conclusion. It is interesting to note that the U. S. Census of 1850 shows the valuation of Evins' land at $15,530. That was a lot of land in a day and time when the City of Atlanta boasted a population of 2500.

On November 25, 1931, the writer of this history set out to find the grave of John L. Evins which, he had been told, was somewhere around the old homeplace. The home had disappeared but the site was easily discernible, being upon an elevation surrounded by fine old trees. Indeed, the pioneers were unerring in their ability to pick homesites endowed with natural beauty. A large cedar nearby seemed to indicate the presence of a family cemetery. An inspection disclosed what appeared to be one grave, but alas, no marker. Better luck was had some sixty feet away from the grave, for there, under leaves and pine needles, lay some of the broken remains of a once handsome box tomb. Vandals had done their work. Enough fragments were located to piece together the sought for vital statistics. Expertly cut in deeply incised letters and numerals was the following inscription:

In Memory of
JOHN L. EVINS
Born March 23rd, 1794
Died August 8th, 1864

Further investigation at the site led to the discovery that the side pieces of the tomb were serving as front doorstep and hearthstone of a small house nearby, while the lower half of the top slab, bearing the name of its maker, D. N. Judson, Atlanta,[34] had been pressed into service as a back doorstep for the same house. But the inscription that Mr. Judson so carefully carved for the information of posterity is hereby preserved, safely beyond the reach of vandals or the ravages of time.

Nancy Evins died in November, 1883, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the cemetery of the church presumably bearing her name.[35]

The *Southern Recorder,* published at Milledgeville by Richard M. Orme, in its issue of May 25, 1824, carried the following ad:

CHATTAHOOCHEE

The subscriber has established a Ferry across this river at the place commonly known as the Shallowford in the upper part of De Kalb County. Travelers from the Carolinas to the Alabama, coming by way of Augusta, Madison, Rockbridge, etc., will find this much the nearest and best route. Bridges will be placed over the water courses beyond the ferry.

May 17th Jacob R. Brooks.

The editors of the Augusta *Chronicle,* Columbia *Telescope* and Raleigh *Register* are requested to publish the above three or four times and forward their accounts for payment.

The Shallowford was the northern terminus of the High Tower Trail or Path in De Kalb County, reaching the south bank of the Chattahoochee River in fractional land lot No. 370, presently in Grogan's District of Fulton County. It crossed about midway between the present Roswell Bridge and the Bull Sluice plant of the Georgia Power Company, at a point where the river was wide and shallow.[36]

Its proprietor, Jacob R. Brooks, one of De Kalb's earliest residents, was born in Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1787. He was a regular soldier in the U. S. Army for five years and served in the War of 1812. Shortly after coming to De Kalb he established the ferry at Shallowford and, in 1826 and 1827, served in the State Legislature in the House, from De Kalb.

When Cobb County was created in 1832 he moved thither and became its first state senator in 1833. During the same year he was appointed Indian agent for Cobb, his duties being to protect the rights and property of the Indians. He became their firm friend and, when Walker County was created a few years later, moved there as one of its first settlers.

After having served his generation well and becoming the father of twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, he fell on sleep March 22, 1872, and is buried in McLemore's Cove in Walker County.[37]

White Street in West End, running west from 825 Lee Street, S.W., bears the name of William W. White, one of the most highly esteemed of the early settlers of De Kalb. He arrived in 1824 from Franklin County, Georgia, riding a lank horse, with his plowgear on the animal and a side of meat and various utensils tied up in a sack behind him.[38] He settled in land lot No. 119, of the 14th district, wherein much of Oakland City is now located.

The pilfering Indians fretted him very much when they came from their quarters at Sandtown and were forever peeping around the smokehouse and slyly picking up any useful articles lying around.

His wife was afraid of them. He had gone back to Franklin County after her just as soon as he could get the log cabin ready and was in such a hurry that he didn't take time to board up some of the cracks between the logs. So when bears, wolves and panthers came prowling around the house at night, the lady refused to occupy the side of the bed next to the wall for fear that these wild animals would poke their noses through the openings and bite her. Soon Mr. White stopped up the cracks and built various additions to the original cabin.[39]

Not all log cabins were mud-daubed. Many were boarded on the outside, and the inside left for convenient catchalls. There was stocked the knitting, the ironing rag, the clay or corncob pipe, and the baby's rag doll.[40]

William W. White lived a long life, 1800 to 1895, and before being laid to rest in the quiet cemetery at Utoy Church, saw a great city rise to the northeast of his pioneer home.[41]

Another settler of 1824 and a comparatively near neighbor to White, was James Alston Jett. He was a native of Anderson District, South Carolina, and soon after his marriage in 1824 to the daughter of Silas McGrady, settled on the high ground at the present intersection of Hunter and Chestnut streets, N.W. Here he sired eleven children and, before his death in 1876, watched a fairly large city grow up to the east and spread to the borders of his own land. Jett Street, in the northwest section of Atlanta, bears his name, while Neal Street, nearby, was named for his third son and fourth child, Milledge Neal Jett.[42]

The town of Decatur acquired one of its best citizens during the year 1824 in the person of Mason Shumate. Born before the Revolution, in 1764, he was a native of Fauquier County, Virginia, moving, with his wife, Nancy Gatewood of the same county, to Spartanburg District, South Carolina, in 1804, and, to Decatur in 1824[43]

Shortly after his arrival, Mr. Shumate opened Decatur's first hotel. A few years later he moved to his plantation about a mile west of town and engaged in planting as long as he lived. He was one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church in Decatur and was an intelligent, well read man in a day when the latter attribute was comparatively rare. His children received the best education he could afford, for he was both a devoted father and kind master.[44]

A weatherbeaten upright tablet in the old section of the Decatur cemetery informs the observer that it is

SACRED
To the Memory of
MASON SHUMATE,
who departed this life
June 28th, 1849
aged 85 years

The nine children of Mason and Nancy Gatewood Shumate are all worthy of note, Joseph D. married Amelia Montgomery, daughter of J. McC. Montgomery, of Standing Peachtree; Lucinda married Judge Reuben Cone, one of the founders of Atlanta; Harriet married Judge Alexander Corry, pioneer Decaturite and early Atlantan; Berryman D., an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta; Sarah married Col. Jesse C. Farrar, a veteran of the War of 1812 and grandfather of the late Charles E. Currier, long president of the Atlanta National Bank; Cynthia married Daniel Stone, for many years clerk of both the Inferior and Superior Courts of De Kalb and grandfather of Charles F. Stone, Chairman of the Board of Atlantic Steel Company; Elizabeth married E. G. Adams, an early merchant of Decatur, who subsequently moved to Mississippi; Benjamin Franklin, long a substantial farmer of Clarkston District; Eliza, the youngest child, married John Glen, who moved from Decatur to Atlanta when the Georgia Railroad was completed in 1845. He was employed by the road forty-one years and served as mayor of Atlanta during the latter part of 1855.[45]

The inventory of Mason Shumate's estate is indicative of the worldly goods of a moderately prosperous citizen of his day. He owned more slaves than the majority of his contemporaries, and the various pieces of his furniture, if still in existence, are doubtless treasured antiques. The estate was appraised July 9, 1849, by Ezekiel Mason, William F. Chewning, T. B. George, Joseph A. Reeves and W. A. David. The inventory follows:

Cash found in hand, the property of deceased	$ 18.30
House and lot, late residence of deceased	420.00
Frances Sophia, a mulatto girl	505.00
Rosella, a Negro woman and her child, Savannah	650.00
Mary, a mulatto woman	620.00
Mary Emily, a black girl	230.00
Caroline, a mulatto girl	575.00
Elvira, a black girl	470.00
Minerva, a mulatto girl	430.00
Eli, a mulatto boy	590.00
Frances Isabella, a girl	371.00
Mary Loduska, a girl	261.00
Adaline and her child, John Albert	775.00
Felix, a mulatto boy	670.00
Emaline, a mulatto woman	560.00
Huldah, a girl	455.00
One yoke oxen	25.00
“ cow and calf	10.00
“ “ “ “	10.00
“ sorrel filly	69.00
“ lot stock hogs, 17 head	40.00
“ small wagon	40.00
“ lot kitchen furniture	6.50
“ lot farming tools	7.00
“ man's saddle	3.00
“ spinning wheel and reel	3.00
3 featherbeds, 1 bedstead and bed furniture	30.00
1 Pattent (*sic*) clock	3.00
1 cupboard	3.00
1 lot crockery and glassware in the cupboard	1.00
1 pr. shovels and tongs and irons and candlesticks	.50
1 sideboard and chest and looking glass	3.00
1 walnut folding table	3.00
10 split bottom chairs @ 25¢ each	2.50
20 pieces bacon, 200 lbs.	13.00
1 Georgia hand loom	1.50

Also notes on following individuals:

B. F. Shumate, Mary A. Tipton, John Glen, Wm. Roberts, Young Moore, Reuben Cone, James M. Holley, Jesse J. Jones, Moses W. Formwalt, Allison Nelson, Isham Cain, Joseph D. Shumate, C. W. McGinnis, J. V. Jones, Levi Simpson, James Grant and Allen Hardman.[46]

Mason Shumate's house and lot in Decatur were sold on January 1, 1850, to James M. Calhoun for $520.00.[47] The purchaser, then a young lawyer of 38, was destined, little more than a decade hence, to become the war-time mayor of Atlanta.

NOTES—CHAPTER 2

[1] Executive Minutes, 1824, pp. 449-450.

[2] Edens, Founding of Atlanta, *loc. cit.*, 210-211.

[3] Ruth Blair, comp., *Georgia Official and Statistical Register*, (Atlanta, 1925), 321. Hereafter cited as Blair, *Official Register.*

[4] *Ibid.*, 1927, p. 440.

[5] Executive Minutes, 1824.

[6] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1824, p. 9.

[7] Candler, *De Kalb County*, 11.

[8] *Ibid*

[9] *Cf.* "State's Third Oldest Church at Buckhead", *Atlanta Journal Magazine*, May 23, 1926. This article states that Sardis Methodist Church on Power's Ferry Road in Fulton County was founded in 1812. No proof is offered or contemporary record cited or quoted. The same unsupported statement apears in a news article, titled "Sardis Church Will Observe Special Service", *Atlanta Constitution*, July 19, 1941. While the present writer has been unable to establish any other specific founding date, and grants that the church is very old, he seriously doubts that any formal church organization was perfected in this section nine years before the land was ceded by the Creek Indians. There were no permanent white settlers here at that time. The Power's Ferry Road was not opened until shortly before or after Power's Ferry was authorized in 1835. See *Ga. Laws*, 1835, p. 95. A careful recording of the monumental inscriptions in the cemetery at Sardis Church, by the present writer on Dec. 12, 1930, does not disclose a death date prior to 1870, though some of the unmarked graves may be older.

[10] Walter G. Cooper, *Official History of Fulton County* (Atlanta, 1934), 33. Hereafter cited as Cooper, *Fulton County.*

[11] John D. Humphries, "Utoy Church", *A.H.B.*, VII, 7; the name of the creek is herein spelled "Nance's."

[12] *Ibid.*, 5.

[13] Sarah Huff, "Hens Set for Camp Meeting", *Atlanta Journal Magazine*, Aug. 11, 1935.

[14] Cooper, *Fulton County*, 33-34.

[15] Sarah Huff, "Hens Set for Camp Meeting", *loc. cit.*

[16] Sholes' *Georgia State Gazetteer and Business Directory*, 1879-1880, p. 391.

[17] "Garrett's Necrology".

[18] Humphries, "Utoy Church", *loc. cit.*, 5, 7.

[19] *Ibid.*, 13.

[20] *Ibid.*, 14.

[21] "Garrett's Necrology".

[22] Candler, *De Kalb County*, 11-12.

[23] Dorothy Orr, *A History of Education in Georgia* (Chapel Hill, N. C., 1950), 70. Hereafter cited as Orr, *Education in Georgia.*

[24] *Ibid.*, 69.

[25] *Ibid.*, 76.

[26] SENATUS ACADEMICUS: A body constituted in 1784 to regulate the affairs of the University of Georgia (Franklin College), and to advance the interests of "Literature throughout the State". It consisted of two bodies: a board of visitors consisting of the governor, the judges of the superior court, president of the senate and speaker of the house; and a board of trustees, composed of the trustees appointed in the original Act of 1784, and others elected by their own body. On Dec. 16, 1811, the charter was amended so that to the board of visitors were added the senators from each county, except from the county in which the speaker resided. *Cf.* Orr. *Education* in Georgia, 30.

[27] *Ga. Laws*, 1822, pp. 4-5.

[28] Executive Minutes, Dec. 13, 1824, pp. 449-450.

[29] *Ibid.*, July 26, 1824, p. 350.

[30] *Ibid.*, Sept. 5, 1825, pp. 600-601.

[31] Levi Willard (an early settler of Decatur), "Early History of Decatur Written Many Years Ago," *De Kalb New Era*, Jan. 13, 1921. Hereafter cited as Willard, "Decatur".

[32] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850. A transcript of the original, in the Census Bureau at Washington, D. C., was made by Franklin M. Garrett in 1931, and is now in his collection of material relating to De Kalb County.

[33] Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of John L. Evins. Inventory and Appraisement Book A, Fulton County.

[34] Well-known Atlanta marble dealer and tombstone manufacturer of the 1850's, 60's, and 70's.

[35] "Garrett's Necrology".

[36] John M. Harrison, "Some Notes on Jacob R. Brooks and the Shallow Ford", *A.H.B.,* IX (Nov. 1936), 37-38.

[37] *Ibid.,* 38-39; *Cf.* Information furnished to Wilbur G. Kurtz by Mrs. L. B. Franklin, granddaughter of Jacob R. Brooks, and shared by Mr. Kurtz with the present writer.

[38] Sarah Huff, "My 80 Years in Atlanta", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 9, 1936.

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] "Garrett's Necrology".

[42] From Jett Family Bible and information furnished the present writer on July 31, 1935, by Miss Betty Wood, of Clarkston, Ga. Miss Wood, owner of the Bible, is a granddaughter of James Alston Jett.

[43] S. B. Hoyt, "The Shumate Family", *De Kalb New Era,* Nov. 25, 1886.

[44] *Ibid.*

[45] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[46] Record of Inventories, Appraisements and Sales of Estates, De Kalb County Ordinary's Office.

[47] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 3

1825

AS THE first quarter of the nineteenth century drew to a close De Kalb was still a frontier county with Cherokee lands to the northwest and Creek lands to the west. In Washington John Quincy Adams was inaugurated president; in Massachusetts General LaFayette dedicated the Bunker Hill Monument, and in New York the Erie Canal was opened to commerce. At Indian Springs, Georgia, on February 12, 1825, a treaty was signed with the Creek Indians, which provided for the cession of all Creek territory in Georgia and Alabama in exchange for lands farther west.

This treaty was both ill-fated and premature, ill-fated in that it served as a death warrant for General William McIntosh, chief signer for the Creeks, and premature in that it had to be declared null and void.

McIntosh, a half-breed, was a man of great force of character and the noted chief of the Cowetas, or Lower Creeks. He was also a first cousin to George M. Troup, Governor of Georgia. While the Lower Creeks concurred more or less with McIntosh, the Upper Creeks, who resided for the most part in Alabama, demurred violently to the treaty of 1825 and looked upon McIntosh as a traitor to their nation.[1]

A general council of the Upper Creeks, also called Red Stick Creeks, condemned McIntosh to death. The sentence was carried out about three o'clock in the morning of April 30, 1825. A body of men went to the home of McIntosh, in what is now southeast Carroll County near the Coweta county line and attacked in full force. The defense was valiant but unavailing. The attackers set fire to the house and when McIntosh was forced to emerge, riddled him with bullets. His scalp was suspended on a pole in a public square of Octuskee, a Creek village.[2] In the house with the Chief were an Indian named Etomme Tustenugee; his son-in-law Col. Samuel Hawkins; his son, Chilly McIntosh, and a peddler. Tustenugee fell at the first discharge after the door was opened; Hawkins was also slain, while Chilly McIntosh escaped in the darkness through a rear window. The peddler was spared,[3] together with the women.

Four days after this atrocity Jane Hawkins, daughter of William McIntosh and widow of Col. Samuel Hawkins, wrote the following graphic, albeit pathetic, letter to Col. Duncan G. Campbell and Major James Meriwether, Commissioners, who had represented the United States in the signing of the 1825 treaty:

"Line Creek, Fayette Co.
May 3, 1825.

Col. Campbell and Major Meriwether:

My dear friends I send you this paper, which will not tell you a lie, but if it had ten tongues, it could not tell you all the truth. On the morning of the 30th April at break of day my Father's house was surrounded by a party of hostile Indians to the number of several hundred who instantly fired his dwelling and murdered him and Thomas Tutunnuggee by shooting more than one hundred balls into them and took away the whole of father's money and property which they could carry off and destroyed the rest, leaving the family no clothes (some not one rag) nor provision.

Brother Chilly was at Father's and made his escape through a window under cover of a traveling white man who obtained leave for them to come out that way. It being not yet light, he was not discovered. While those hostiles were murdering my beloved father, they were tying my husband Col. Sam Hawkins with cords, to wait the arrival of Stockchunga Thloccocosconicco and Munnauca who were the commanders at Tatler to give orders for the other execution also which took place about three o'clock the same day, and these barbarous men, not content with spilling the blood of both my husband and father to attone for their constant friendship to both your nation and our own, refused my hand the painful privilege of covering his body up in the very ground which he lately defended, against those hostile murderers, and drove me from my home, stript of my two best friends in one day, stript of all my property, my provision and my clothing with a more painful reflection than all these that the body of my poor murdered husband should remain unburied to be devoured by the birds, and the beast, was ever poor woman worse off than I?

I have this moment arrived among our white friends, who altho they are very kind, have but little to bestow on me and my poor helpless infant, who must suffer before any aid can reach us from you but I can live a great while on very little, besides the confidence I have on you, and your government. For I know by your promise, you will aid and defend us as soon as you hear from our situation. These murderers are the very same hostiles who treated the white 10 years ago as they have now treated my husband and father, who say they are determined to kill all who had any hand in selling the land and when they have completed the work of murdering, burning, plundering and destruction, they will send the president word that they have saved their land, and taken it back and that he and the white people never shall have it again which is the order of the heads of the nation, by the advice of the agent.

We expect that many of our best friends are already killed, but have not heard by reason of the water [Chattahoochee River] being too high for word to go quick, which is the only reason Col. Miller and others on his side of the river were not killed.

We are in a dreadful condition, and I don't think there will be one ear of corn made in this part of the nation, for the whole of the friendly party have fled to De Kalb and Fayette county, two (*sic*) much alarmed to return to their homes to get a little grain of what corn they left for themselves and their families to subsist on, much more to stay at home to make more and we fear every day that what little provision we left will be destroyed. I am afraid you will think I make it worse, but how can that be? For it is worse of itself than any pen can write, my condition admits of no equal, and mock me when I try to speak of it, after I was stript of my last frock but one humanity and duty called on me to pull it off and spread it over the body of my dead husbany (which was allowed no other covering) which I did as a farewell witness of my affection. I was 25 miles from any friend (but sister Catherine who was with me) and had to stay all night in the woods surrounded by a thousand hostile Indians who were constantly insulting and affrighting us. And now I am here with only one old coat to my back, and not a morsel of bread to save us from perishing, or a rag of a blanket to cover my poor little boy from the sun at noon or the dew at night, and I am a poor distracted orphan and widow.

JANE HAWKINS.

P.S. If you think proper I wish this to be published.

J. H."[4]

Feeling ran high, as would be expected, after such flagrant lawlessness. The legislature ordered the survey of the ceded territory to proceed. President John Quincy Adams directed Governor Troup to stop the survey because of the hostile attitude of the Indians.[5] After a warm exchange of correspondence between Troup and both the President and the Secretary of War, the treaty was referred to Congress and was not officially acted upon until the following year.

A granite boulder marks the grave of General McIntosh on the McIntosh Reserve in Carroll County. The inscription upon the bronze plate attached thereto reads as follows:

1778 To the 1825
MEMORY AND HONOR
of
GENERAL WILLIAM McINTOSH

The distinguished and patriotic son of Georgia whose devotion was heroic, whose friendship was unselfish, and whose service was valiant, who negotiated the treaty between the Creek Indians and the State for all lands lying west of the Flint river, who sacrificed his life for his patriotism.

Erected
by
William McIntosh Chapter
Daughters of the American
Revolution
of
Jackson, Georgia
1921[6]

During the same month and year in which occurred the McIntosh murder, one of the best-known citizens of De Kalb County met death at the hands of an assassin. The victim was John B. Nelson, proprietor of Nelson's Ferry on the Chattahoochee and whose name is preserved as the designation of Nelson Street, one of Atlanta's business arteries, formerly a segment of the Nelson's Ferry Road.

Particulars of the murder are lacking but the following, from the Executive Minutes of the State of Georgia for Friday, April 8, 1825, throws some light upon the case:

A Proclamation, of which the following is a copy, was issued and ordered to be published in the *Georgia Journal* and *Southern Recorder,* to wit:

"Georgia:

By his excellency George M. Troup Governor and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of this State and the militia thereof.

It appearing by affidavit and Warrant in due form produced by the Deputy Sheriff of De Kalb County at the Executive Office, that on the second day of this present month, a certain John W. Davis had committed a murder on the body of John B. Nelson of the same County and had fled from justice—I have therefore thought proper to issue this my Proclamation hereby offering a reward of Two hundred and fifty dollars to any person or persons who may apprehend and deliver the said John W. Davis to the Sheriff or Jailor of the County aforesaid—And I do moreover charge and require all officers civil and military to be vigilant in assisting to apprehend the said John W. Davis, that he may be brought to trial for the crime with which he is charged.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State at the State House in Milledgeville this eighth day of April Eighteen hundred and twenty five.

G. M. TROUP.

By the Governor,
EVERARD HAMILTON,
Secretary of State.

NOTE—John W. Davis is between fifty and fifty six years of age, five feet six or seven inches high, stout built, round face, swarthy complexion, dark hair, a little grey with somewhat of baldness, and a shaking of his limbs at times as if affected by palsy."

That Davis was apprehended is indicated by the following order passed by the Inferior Court of De Kalb County at its June, 1826, term:

"Ordered that the sum of $35.12½ be paid to William Carson or his order for guarding the jail while John W. Davis was a prisoner in said jail and the further sum of $1.25."

We are left in the dark as to the outcome of the trial because the records of the De Kalb Superior Court prior to 1836 were destroyed in the court-house fire of 1842. It would appear however that Davis escaped the hangman's noose, for, on August 4, 1849, the Inferior Court of De Kalb adjudged him a pauper lunatic and committed him to the Lunatic Asylum. "The Mills of the Gods grind slowly. Yet they grind exceeding small."

John B. Nelson lies buried in his family cemetery in land lot 268 of the 17th district, Fulton County, in the present Center Hill District. The cemetery is fairly close to the old ferry landing and is enclosed by a low field stone wall. Inside are seven visible graves, six of which are marked by uninscribed stone slabs. The other, designated by an obelisk, long since toppled over, is inscribed to the memory of Mary J. E. Williams, consort of Frederic A. Williams,[7] who died November 16, 1845, aged 20 years and 18 days. She was a posthumous daughter of John B. Nelson. In addition to this daughter, Mr. Nelson left other children, among them a three-year-old son, Allison, future mayor of Atlanta (1855) and Brigadier General in the Confederate Army.[8]

Of course all was not violence in and around De Kalb County in 1825. Four of its pioneer churches were organized that year, Decatur Presbyterian, Rock Chapel Methodist, Wesley Chapel Methodist and Hardman Primitive Baptist.[9]

Decatur Presbyterian was organized October 29th by Rev. John S. Wilson, then Pastor of old Fairview in Gwinnett and later of Atlanta. The church, as organized, was called Westminster Presbyterian. Charter members were William Bryce and his wife, Mary Bryce; James Lemon and his wife, Mary B. Lemon; William Carson and wife, Jane; Thomas Harris and Rebecca Luckie. Rev. Alex Kirkpatrick was its first Minister as stated supply, being succeeded by Rev. John S. Wilson as first Pastor. The Church was incorporated in 1827 as the Decatur Presbyterian Church. Purpose of incorporation was of course to enable the church to hold, encumber and dispose of property, by fixing titles in Trustees.[10]

Rock Chapel, in Diamond's District, north of Lithonia, has been a religious fountain for hundreds since its organization in July, 1825. Property on which the church stands was deeded by Joseph B. Bond, who had come to De Kalb from Hall County in 1823. The name of the church is derived from a mountain of rock nearby. A camp-meeting ground in connection with Rock Chapel was established in 1840. Among the names associated through the years with this pioneer church are Bond, Diamond, Evans, Chupp, McGuffey, Griffin, Lee, Turner, Wellborn, Wesley, Marbut, Starnes, Johnson, Braswell and Ragsdale.[11]

Exact information as to the establishment of Wesley Chapel, in Panthersville District, is lacking, but it is thought to have been organized about the same time as Decatur Presbyterian and Rock Chapel. Under an Act of the General Assembly approved December 26, 1835, Thomas W. Slaughter, George Hall, Rev. Elijah Bird, Rev. Uriah Sprayberry, James W. Givens, Gabe Johnson, Minty Fowler, William W. Johnson and Benjamin Sprayberry were incorporated as Trustees of Wesley Chapel Camp Ground of the M. E. Church of De Kalb County. The camp-ground no longer exists but the cemetery in connection with the church is one of the oldest in De Kalb County.[12]

Hardman Primitive Baptist Church, the official title of which is the "Primitive Baptist Church of Christ at Hardman's" was constituted November 19, 1825, by a Presbytery composed of John Bankston, James Hale, Isaiah Parker, and William McDonald. Charter members were John Johnson, Jacob Williams, Joicy Hardman, William Towers, Nancy Lunceford, Lucrecy Parker, Thurza Williams, Sarah Williams, Mary T. Williams, Mary Williams and Sarah Towers.[13]

The church is now located on Glenwood Avenue just west of Columbia Drive Road in Panthersville District. However, its original location was northeast of Decatur on the Shallowford Road on what is now Walter T. Candler's Lullwater Farm. The ancient cemetery remains at the old location and is the resting place of such De Kalb pioneers as John and Allen Hardman, John Johnson, Dr. Chapman Powell and Benjamin Burdett.[14]

The early history of Hardman, Indian Creek Baptist and the Decatur Baptist churches is closely associated and old Hardman may well be called the Venerable Mother of the other two, though the Mother clings to the old Primitive faith and practices, while the children have established their missions and societies.[15]

A new slate of Inferior Court Justices was commissioned January 27, 1825. It consisted of Joseph Morris, George Clifton, William Corry and William Towers. Morris resigned February 26 and was succeeded by Reuben Cone.[16]

The subject of roads and bridges occupied a considerable part of the justices' time. At the March term they ordered "that there be a bridge built across the South river where the Henry road cross #10 in 15th dist."[17] This was the Decatur-McDonough Road. On March 1 William Terry, Mathew Henry, Zachariah Lee, Augustin Young and Silas Poole were appointed to view and mark the line road from Newton County line on to John Pounds.[18]

In May Peachtree Creek came up for attention when it was ordered "that a road be cut . . . from Decatur to Peachtree Creek in lot #56 and running through #57 crossing Peachtree on lot #102 thence on to William Bruce's, and a bridge to be made over Peachtree Creek."[19] If Peachtree Creek was bridged in lot #102, such bridge must have been located due east of the present Decatur water works. Lots 56 and 57 corner very near Wallace Station where Briarcliff Road now crosses over the Seaboard Railroad.

That De Kalb County road building operations in 1825 were somewhat informal is indicated by the following, dated May 3: "Ordered that William A.

Corry be authorized to turn the road around their plantation on the nearest and most suitable ground intersecting the Ala. road at James B. Broughton provided they cut the new road as good as the old."[20]

The ever-present problem of welfare was handled just as informally and with a greater degree of brevity than was road building. The Inferior Court, in March, 1825, "Ordered that the clerk of this court pay over to John Morris $25.00 for the use of the poor, he being one of the overseers of the poor."[21]

The gubernatorial election of 1825 was significant, both for the fact that it was the first by popular vote and because of the long standing antagonism between the Clarke and Troup parties, as they were called. It was more of a personal campaign than one of issues and platforms, though by 1825 the electorate was rather much sectionalized. Troup had coastal Georgia support and Clarke was strongly backed by the frontier counties.[22]

The Clarke men professed to be more loyal to the United States government and the Troup men to be sticklers for states rights.[23]

Therefore, in the election of 1825, when Clarke opposed Troup for a third non-consecutive term as Governor, the voting in De Kalb County, the frontier of which was the Chattahoochee River, was predominantly Clarke. Even so Troup was elected by a total majority of 683 votes.[24]

The fact is, De Kalb politics represented something of a mixture in the early days. Major J. McC. Montgomery, a Troup man, was the first senator; Judge Lochlin Johnson, a Clarke man, succeeded him. Then Tully Choice and William Ezzard, both Troup men. Then Jesse F. Cleveland and Jonathan B. Wilson on the other side.[25]

The first published obituary relating to De Kalb County, and of which there is any record, appeared in the *Southern Recorder,* Milledgeville, June 14, 1825. It reads:

> "Departed this life on the 20th of May, at his residence in the vicinity of the Standing Peachtree, in De Kalb County, Capt. Jacobus Watts, aged 53 years.
>
> Had been long a citizen of Greene County and represented that county in legislature. Moved to Morgan County and became member of inferior court. A republican."

In the absence of an annual census, a fruitful source of information for the names of local pioneer citizens is the jury lists and, in the case of De Kalb County for this early period, we must depend upon the Inferior Court records. A jury was drawn at November, 1825, term of this court, consisting of twenty-six citizens. They were:

1. Joseph Crockett, Sr.
2. Benjamin Parrimore
3. George Heard, Jr.
4. Jonathan Childs
5. Alvin T. Foans
6. John Lawson
7. George Heard, Sr.
8. William Wilson
9. Burrill A. Gober
10. Thomas Harris
11. William W. Maloney
12. Benjamin Waldrop
13. James D. Thompson
14. Jonathan Williams
15. William Williams
16. Ransom Thompson
17. Samuel Dobbs
18. Richard G. Mayo
19. Elias Campbell
20. James Goodwin
21. Thomas Grogan
22. Aaron Roberts
23. Joshua Broughton
24. Joseph Woodrough
25. Stephen Williams
26. John Davenport

Of this pioneer group, the homeplace, though not the original house, of only one remains intact. William Wilson, juror number eight, was born in 1775 and came to De Kalb from Franklin County about 1823, where he settled on what is now the Fairburn Road between Adamsville and Cascade (Sandtown) Road. He died in 1839 and is buried in the family cemetery a hundred feet or so from the house.[26]

The present house, meticulously kept and one of the best examples of ante-bellum architecture around Atlanta, was built between 1856 and 1859 by Judge William A. Wilson, youngest son of William. The house is almost square with walls twenty inches thick, constructed of rubble stone finished in blocked concrete. It is still owned and occupied by Wilson descendants.[27]

NOTES—CHAPTER 3

[1] Knight, *Landmarks,* I, 162-163.

[2] *Ibid.,* 166.

[3] William J. Northen, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia* (6 vols. Atlanta, 1907-1912), II, 73.

[4] Original, Cuyler Collection, University of Georgia Library Copy. State Department Archives and History, Atlanta.

[5] Knight, *Landmarks,* I, 166.

[6] Mary G. Jones and Lily Reynolds, eds., and comps., *Coweta County Chronicles for One Hundred Years* (Atlanta, 1928), 28, 39. Hereafter cited as Jones and Reynolds, *Coweta County.*

[7] Son af Ammi Williams, pioneer land owner of De Kalb and Fulton counties.

[8] "Garrett's Necrology"; Cemetery visited by present writer, Aug. 24, 1931.

[9] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 12-13.

[10] *Ibid.,* 12.

[11] *Ibid.,* 13; "Rock Chapel Centennial", *De Kalb New Era,* July 13, 1925; "Garrett's Necrology."

[12] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 13; "Garrett's Necrology."

[13] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 13.

[14] Garrett's Necrology".

[15] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 14.

[16] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[17] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 12.

[18] *Ibid.,* 6.

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ibid.,* 13.

[22] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 100, 104.

[23] Williard, "Decatur", *De Kalb New Era,* Feb. 17, 1921.

[24] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 103.

[25] Willard, "Decatur", *loc. cit.*

[26] "Garrett's Necrology".

[27] Picture of house and details of construction available in files of Atlanta Historical Society.

CHAPTER 4

1826

NEWS of the death, on July 4, 1826, of both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson was received with sorrow by the people of De Kalb, for certainly no two individuals had more to do with the founding of the Republic than these distinguished citizens.

Three months later, on October 7, in Massachusetts, occurred another event, then by no means as newsworthy as the passing of the Messrs. Adams and Jefferson, but of considerably more import to the future of De Kalb County and its citizens. A tramway railroad, the first with metal tracks, was opened from the granite quarries at Quincy to the Neponset River to carry stone for the Bunker Hill monument.[1] The fact that its cars were drawn by horses did not lessen the future impact of the innovation upon De Kalb County.

Meanwhile the western and southwestern borders of De Kalb ceased to impinge upon Creek Indian territory. The abortive treaty of 1825 was succeeded by another, concluded at Washington, D. C., between the United States government and the Creek Nation, on January 24, 1826, whereby the Creeks ceded all of their land east of the Chattahoochee River, including the reservations of the treaties of 1805 and 1821. The cession includes all that part of the state lying between the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers, north of the cession of 1814.[2]

Out of this territory were created several large counties during the year 1826, including the neighboring ones of Carroll, Coweta and Troup. Some present-day towns and cities in the area are: Douglasville, Carrollton, Newnan, La Grange, Greenville, Columbus, Americus, Cuthbert and Dawson.[3]

A final treaty was concluded with Creeks on November 15 of the following year, its purpose being to correct the boundaries as established in the 1826 treaty. By its provisions the United States became possessed of a long narrow strip of land lying along the Alabama border and extending from the Chattahoochee to the Cherokee boundary. It is embraced in the present counties of Haralson, Carroll, Heard and Troup.[4] Thus were surrendered the last known Creek lands within the state.

Of course this left the Cherokee Nation to the north and northwest, together with the vexing and long unsettled question of where the boundary between the Creeks and Cherokees actually was, northwest of the Chattahoochee River. The boundary question was not officially settled until 1830.

New De Kalb County officers were commissioned for a two-year term, January 9, 1826. They were: David R. Sillivan, Sheriff; Daniel Stone, Clerk Superior Court; Charles Murphey, Clerk Inferior Court; Larkin Carlton, Coroner and James Anderson, Suveyor.[5] The new Inferior Court Clerk, Charles Murphey, age 26, was to become a noted man, about whom, more later. He was the great-grandfather of the present De Kalb County Commissioner, Scott Candler.

A new Justice of the Inferior Court, John Reid, was commissioned February 14, 1826,[6] while De Kalb's representation in the Legislature was entrusted to Tully Choice, Senator, and Thomas Akin and Jacob R. Brooks, Representatives.[7]

An early coroner's case is brought to light in the following order of the Inferior Court, dated May 1, 1826; "Ordered that Joseph D. Shumate be paid the sum of ten dollars out of the County funds appropriated by law for paying Coroner's fees in payment of an Inquest held on Utoy Creek over a person unknown."[8]

The physical development of the county continued throughout the year. Meredith Collier turned in a report to the Inferior Court on January 23rd.

"Personally appeared before me Meredith Collier, Magistrate for this County, John Beasley, Abraham Chandler, Benjamin Plaster and Charles Bonner who said they have laid out and marked a new road beginning on the Chattahoochee River against George Stitt's landing onto Decatur on the best and nearest way agreeably to an order directed. . . .

We as commissioners in viewing the road believe that the road is practicable and on as good ground as the country will admit of. Given unto our hands this 26th Jan. 1826.

John Beasley
Abraham Chandler
Charles Bonner
Benjamin Plaster

Ordered that the above mentioned road be cleared out as the law directs."[9]

The writer has never been able to satisfactorily locate George Stitt's landing but hazards the guess that it was somewhere between the Shallow Ford and Standing Peachtree.

On February 14, 1826, the following Road Commissioners were appointed: Thornton Ward, Dempsey Perkerson, Lochlin Johnson, for Captain Gettin's district; Samuel L. Wilson, Adam Poole and Daniel Childs, for Captain Scaif's district; and Meredith Collier and James Campbell, for all the public roads in Captain Merritt's district.[10]

Among the above commissioners were the founders of at least three of the best-known present-day families of the Atlanta area, the Perkersons, Pooles and Colliers.

Dempsey Perkerson (1778-1875) came to De Kalb from South Carolina and settled on South River where he farmed the same land for fifty-four years. He was the great-grandfather of Angus Perkerson, Editor of the Atlanta *Journal Sunday Magazine.* Dempsey Perkerson, in common with so many of the pioneers, is buried in a family cemetery on his old home place.[11]

Adam Poole (c. 1775-1855) moved, in 1818, to what later became De Kalb County, from Fairfield District, South Carolina, and established a settlement on what is now Jonesboro Road at Poole's Creek, which was named for him, and upon which he operated a grist mill. He was also a country merchant and farmer. Some of his children intermarried with such well-known old local families as the Scaifes, Tomlinsons, Wilsons and Taliaferros. The late undertakers, Harry G. Poole, senior and junior, were among the many descendants of Adam Poole and his wife, Margaret Crosby. A new low rental apartment development, known as Blair Village, now occupies the site of the old Poole settlement, the builders of which are to be congratulated on at least two counts. One of the principal streets in the Village retains the Poole name as Poole Creek Drive, while the Poole family cemetery was carefully built around and the site not destroyed. It remains on high ground in the center of the Village in Land Lot #33 of the 14th District, Fulton County. Unfortunately, during the past fifteen years vandals, for whom there should be a special niche in purgatory, succeeded admirably in destroying the ancient but well-made and neatly inscribed grave markers. The writer was fortunate in that he preceded them and made a complete record of the inscriptions on November 24, 1930.[12]

Meredith Collier (1782-1863), one of the original settlers on Peachtree Creek, was introduced in a preceding chapter. He and his family will appear at intervals throughout this history.

Samuel L. Wilson (1801-1837) was the eldest child of William Wilson, whose old home site is described in Chapter 3.[13]

Lochlin Johnson (1787-1861) was one of De Kalb's leaders for forty years and, during his lifetime, owned what was probably the finest plantation in the county. As the present United States Government Honor Farm, in Panthersville District, it is still a first-rate piece of ground.[14]

An order dated July 3, 1826, pertaining to the Fayetteville Road is particularly interesting because it constitutes one of the earliest references to South River and possibly the earliest reference to Intrenchment Creek, by those names. It reads:

> "Ordered that the road leading from Fayetteville to Decatur in De Kalb County be turned so as to run from John Mitchell's or from the bridge on South River and to cross the Intrenchment Creek at or near Meredith Brown's, thence the nearest and best way to Decatur. Also that John Carter, James Corlee and Richard Respass be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to lay out the above named road."[15]

The numerous springs under the Peters Building, First National Bank Building and Peachtree Arcade constitute the head waters of Intrenchment Creek. The stream is now a trunk sewer through southeast Atlanta and finally flows as an open creek into South River a short distance east of the City Prison Farm near Constitution, in De Kalb County.

The cost of building bridges in De Kalb County a century and a quarter ago was exceedingly modest. The Inferior Court, at its December, 1826 term, ordered:

> "That the sum of $24.00 be paid to Joel Swinney out of the County funds of De Kalb County after all the outstanding debts are satisfied against the County for the building a bridge across Snapfinger Creek.
>
> William Towers
> John Reid
> Reuben Cone
> *J.I.C.*"[16]

During the preceding month, on November 26th, the Court "Ordered that a bridge be erected by James McC. Montgomery near the Standing Peachtree in the county of De Kalb, be received as a public bridge and taken into public patronage." By the same order commissioners were appointed to "let or make a contract for the covering and banistering of said bridge and to see that it is kept in good order. Said covering and banistering not to exceed $30.00."[17]

While the exact location of this bridge is not certain, it, in all probability crossed Peachtree Creek at or very close to the present site of the Moore's Mill Road bridge across the creek, on what was then Peachtree Road.

The fact that James Diamond, De Kalb's pioneer surveyor, did not overcharge his clients, is indicated by an order passed January 7, 1826, providing payment in the amount of $30 to him for surveying town lots in Decatur.[18]

The town of Decatur gained new distinction on May 23, 1826, when it became a United States post office with Ephraim R. McClean as first Postmaster. This was the second post office in the county, Standing Peachtree the first, having been so designated February 5, 1825.[19]

Subsequent Decatur postmasters, to the close of the War Between the States were, with date of commission:

Jesse F. Cleveland	April 16, 1828
Barnett F. Cleveland	October 21, 1831
Jesse F. Cleveland	March 4, 1834
Thomas A. Sullivan	November 14, 1834
John Glen	March 29, 1839
Daniel Stone	February 3, 1848
Elijah Rosser	November 13, 1852
William A. Powell	January 24, 1856
James A. Bale	January 10, 1859
William W. Bradbury	December 2, 1859
John N. Pate	December 6, 1865[20]

Educational facilities in De Kalb County during the fifty-first year of American independence, continued to inch forward.

The De Kalb County Academy had been established under a resolution of the General Assembly in 1823 but, in all probability it was not opened until 1825. Rev. Alexander Kirkpatrick was first Principal, being assisted by Watson Kittredge, who came to Decatur from Spencer, Mass.[21]

At any rate the institution was incorporated by an Act of December 10, 1825, and, by Act of December 20, 1826, Samuel T. Bailey, Zachariah Holloway, William Ezzard, Joseph Morris, Joseph D. Shumate, Reuben Cone, James Blackstock, William Towers, Merrell Collier, Samuel Prewett, and James Montgomery were appointed Trustees of the Academy, any five of them to constitute a quorum.[22]

An effort to raise money for the Academy became official six days later, when, by Act of December 26th, S. T. Bailey, Alexander Corry, J. F. Cleveland, William Ezzard and Leonard Randall were designated commissioners, "to establish a lottery as soon as practical after the passage of this Act, to raise the sum of $3,000.00, under such scheme and regulations as they or a majority of them may deem necessary and proper for the use of the De Kalb Academy in Decatur." The Judges of the Inferior Court were authorized to vest in the said lottery from county funds $1,000, or more, as they or a majority of them deemed necessary and proper for the use of the Academy.[23]

Meanwhile education of the poor was not being entirely neglected. The Inferior Court on January 2, 1826, ordered "That the County Treasurer pay to the Commissioners of the poor for the use of the poor ½ the amount of the County Tax levied by the Inferior Court for that year."[24]

At a special meeting of the Inferior Court held March 28, 1826, the following citizens were appointed Trustees of the poor schools in De Kalb County: James McC. Montgomery, John Johnson and Silas McGrady.[25] As typical of the oath required of these gentlemen, that of Johnson, made May 1, is herewith quoted:

"I, John Johnson, do solemnly swear that I will to the best of my ability distribute whatever moneys comes into my hands in such manner as in my opinion will most conduce to the education of the poor children in my county and make a true return thereof agreeable to the requisitions of law."[26]

John Johnson (1783-1850) was the founder of a substantial De Kalb County family. He arrived about 1822 from Clarke County, Georgia, and settled in what later became known as Cross Keys District. By his first wife, Permelia Mayne, he sired four children and by his second, Mourning Britain, twelve.[27]

Best known, locally, of the sixteen children was John Gerdine Johnson (1817-1883), a son by the second wife. At the time of his death he owned most of the land whereon Druid Hills is now situated. His granddaughter, Mrs. Antoinette Johnson Matthews, still resides on the old home place, 1097 Oakdale Road, NE.[28]

One of the earliest organized Bible societies in the State was the De Kalb County Bible Society, organized in 1826. Levi Willard, an accurate recorder of early De Kalb history says,[29] "that the Society was formed for the purpose of supplying the destitute with a copy of the Holy Scriptures. The County was thoroughly canvassed at one time to ascertain what destitution there was. Some took offense at the inquiry as to whether they had Bibles, but generally answered with civility. The Society was revived three or four times, after almost dying out. . . . Strange as it may appear, there were some who were opposed to the Bible Society. The reason was because some one may be making money by selling or printing the Bibles."

Levi Willard (1802-1884) was born at Petersham, Massachusetts, and came to Decatur about 1824 for his health. Here he lived until 1864, teaching school and serving the Presbyterian Church as an elder. Upon removal to Springfield, Ohio, he became a contributor to newspapers and magazines. He died and is buried at Springfield. His grandson, Josiah J. Willard, now living retired at Hickory, North Carolina, was, from 1909 to 1944, editor of *The Coca-Cola Bottler,* official organ of the Coca-Cola Bottlers' Association.[30]

Joseph D. Shumate, a son-in-law of J. McC. Montgomery, the Squire of Standing Peachtree, was one of the organizers of the Presbyterian Church in Decatur and became the first candidate for disciplinary action by the church. In 1826 all the streams of the county dried up from a drought. The people had to grind their grain in coffee mills, beat it in mortars and grate it, there being no water to run the mills. Shumate was a miller, and, upon the rain coming at last, ground for the people upon Sunday. That was the reason for the discipline, but upon pleading the necessity of the people, he was unanimously exonerated.[31]

Among the oldest churches in De Kalb is the Decatur Methodist. The exact date of its organization is uncertain but was probably between 1823 and 1826. It was incorporated December 14, 1830, with Jeptha H. George, Jesse P. Jones, Robert Ward, Larkin Carlton and Drury Fowler, as Trustees. However, incorporation was often of a previously existing organization. Levi Willard says that the first church building was erected on the site of the present building in 1826 and that the Rev. Noah Knight was pastor in 1827. Certainly it was one of the first, if not the first church organization in Decatur to actually erect its house of worship.[32]

Among the useful citizens acquired by De Kalb County in 1826 were the Thurmans, Donehoos and Dr. Joseph Thompson.

The Thurman brothers, William, Richard, Benjamin F. and David, removed to Georgia from Chesterfield County, South Carolina, in 1826 and settled at various locations on and near the present site of Atlanta; William Richard and David in what is now Ormewood Park and East Atlanta, and Benjamin F. on Nelson's Ferry Road along the present route of Magnolia Street, NW. Thurman Street, nearby is named for him.[33]

All were farmers, David in addition thereto, being a Methodist preacher. He died in 1831 before the first vestige of the future Atlanta became evident and was buried in Richard Thurman's family cemetery, on or very near the present site of Fort Walter in Grant Park. The cemetery was completely obliterated during the War Between the States. Richard and William moved to Carroll County before the war and died in 1857 and 1871, respectively. Both are buried at Smith's Chapel in Carroll County. Benjamin Franklin Thurman continued to live in Fulton County and died at his last home on Marietta Road near the present Atlantic Coast Line Railroad yards in 1874. All four of the Thurman brothers left many worthy descendants.[34]

James Donehoo, a South Carolinian, came to De Kalb via Franklin County, Georgia, where he had married, in 1817, Elizabeth, daughter of William Wilson. He settled, as did his father-in-law, who preceded him, in the western part of De Kalb, now Fulton near the present settlement known as Adamsville. Here he was a successful planter and later a Justice of the Inferior Court of Fulton County. He has rested from his labors since 1860 in a family cemetery on his home place. The father of nine children, his descendants have included many good citizens. The late Fulton County coroner, Paul Donehoo, was a great-grandson.[35]

Dr. Joseph Thompson, about whom more later, was born in Greenville District, South Carolina, in 1797 and upon his removal to Decatur in 1826, practiced medicine for a period of years. For reasons of health he was forced to give up active practice and entered the profession of hotel keeping in Decatur. When the Georgia Railroad was completed to Atlanta in 1845, he moved to the new town at the invitation of the railroad to take charge of its new hotel there.[36]

An important segment of local real estate changed hands for the first time in 1826 although it had little promise of becoming important at the time. Jane Doss, a widow, of Knox District, Jackson County, Georgia, was the fortunate drawee of Land Lot No. 78 of the 14th district of De Kalb County in the lottery of 1825.[37] Sight unseen, she sold it in 1826 to Mathew Henry, of Gwinnett County for $50, or less than 25¢ an acre for the 202½ acres.[38] Henry held the land lot intact for twelve years, making no improvements of record thereupon and then decided that it would never amount to much. Reuben Cone came forward as a purchaser and, for $300, Mathew executed a deed, in Gwinnett County, on January 7, 1838, for lot No. 78,[39] lock, stock and barrel. He probably congratulated himself upon his astuteness in collecting a five hundred percent profit (before taxes) from Judge Cone. On August 9, 1845, Cone sold a one-half interest in the lot to Ammi Williams.[40]

This land lot, so lightly regarded in the 1820's and 1830's now comprises the ground upon which stands the north half of the downtown business district of Atlanta. It is bounded, north by Simpson Street; south by an east and west line bisecting the Terminal Station and on a direct line with Edgewood

Avenue and Hunter Street, SW; east by Peachtree Street and west by Elliott Street. There is not a fraction of this land lot today that could be purchased for Jane Doss' fifty dollars or Mathew Henry's three hundred. Nor could its ultimate value have been foreseen by the astute Judge Cone, who was gathered to his father's in 1851.[41]

NOTES—CHAPTER 4

[1] Helen Rex Keller, *The Dictionary of Dates* (2 vols. New York, 1934), II, 94. Hereafter cited as *Keller, Dictionary of Dates.*

[2] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 338.

[3] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[4] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 338.

[5] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321; 1927, p. 440.

[8] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1826.

[9] *Ibid.,* 25.

[10] *Ibid.,* 24.

[11] "Garrett's Necrology"; *Atlanta Constitution,* July 29, 1875.

[12] "Garrett's Necrology".

[13] *Ibid.*

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 33.

[16] *Ibid.*

[17] *Ibid.,* 34.

[18] *Ibid.,* 22.

[19] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 10; Statement of Carl T. Hudgins, of Decatur, as to birthplace of Kittredge.

[22] Humphries, "Organization of De Kalb County", *loc. cit.* 20-21.

[23] *Ibid.,* 21.

[24] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 43.

[25] *Ibid.,* 26.

[26] *Ibid.,* 27.

[27] MS records of Mrs. Antoinette Johnson Matthews, of Atlanta. Great-granddaughter of John Johnson.

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] *De Kalb New Era,* Mar. 3, 1921.

[30] Letter, J. J. Willard, of Hickory, N. C. (grandson of Levi) to Franklin M. Garrett, Aug. 27, 1941.

[31] Sarge Plunkett, "In Old De Kalb", *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 11, 1896.

[32] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 15.

[33] "Garrett's Necrology"; John D. Humphries, *Descendants of John Thurman of Virginia* (Atlanta, 1938).

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] "Garrett's Necrology"; *Cf.* Information furnished to present writer on June 5, 1942 by Mrs. Beulah Donehoo Manston, of Atlanta, a great-granddaughter of James Donehoo.

[36] "Recollections of Dr. Thompson", *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 12, 1885.

[37] "Original Grantees of Lots in the Fourteenth District of Originally Henry, Now Fulton County, Georgia", *A.H.B.,* IV, (Dec. 1930), 45.

[38] "Garrett's Necrology"; John R. Hornady, *Atlanta, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* (Atlanta, 1922), 417. Hereafter cited as Hornady, *Atlanta.*

[39] Fulton County Deed Book A, 243.

[40] De Kalb County Deed Book T, 42.

[41] "Garrett's Necrology".

CHAPTER 5

1827

WHILE the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was being chartered in Maryland and the first general strike of the various building trades for a ten-hour day came to an unsuccessful conclusion in Philadelphia,[1] the chief preoccupation of the people of De Kalb County was the Cherokee Nation to the northwest.

That the envious eyes of restless people, not only in De Kalb, but in more remote sections from the Cherokee Nation, were being cast in that direction, cannot be gainsaid. Feelings of the land hungry for possession of Cherokee hills, valleys and streams, were epitomized in current doggerel.

"All I ask in this creation
Is a pretty little wife and a big plantation
Way up yonder in the Cherokee Nation."[2]

The escapist had a different version. It ran:

"I'm goin' for to leave my poor relation
And get me a home in the Cherokee Nation."[3]

Certainly the Cherokees must have viewed with serious misgivings the rapid action of Georgia in moving the Creeks from the boundaries of the State, a movement culminated in 1827.

Their growing distrust of treaties must have been akin to that of later years wherein Balkan treaties were looked upon cynically as "Five year pacts of eternal friendship." At any rate their distrust had, by 1827, developed a firm determination among the Cherokees that they would not give up a foot more of land. As far as they were concerned the boundaries established by the Treaty of 1819 were to stand for all time.

They organized an independent government among themselves and looked to the National government at Washington for recognition. That was the beginning of the end. Governor Forsyth, of Georgia, viewed with alarm this aggressive move of the Cherokees. He took the attitude that a government professing to be independent had been set up in defiance of the laws of Georgia; that Georgia could endure it no longer and asked that the laws of Georgia be extended in a more definite way over all the Cherokee territory.[4]

The State's first law, countering the Cherokees' adoption of an independent government and constitution, was an act passed in December, 1827, giving criminal jurisdiction over certain portions of the Cherokee Nation to the counties of Carroll and De Kalb.

This act, assented to December 26, 1827, by John Forsyth, Governor, consists of ten sections. Only sections eight and nine are of interest here. They read:

"Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, that all portion of the Cherokee Nation, lying within the following lines, shall be attached to and considered as a part of the County of Carroll, for the purpose of giving criminal jurisdiction to said County of Carroll, under the several laws heretofore passed for the trial of offenses committed in the Cherokee or Indian Nation, to-wit: Beginning at Buzzard Roost, and running thence on the old path that leads to one

Sally Hughes; thence on the main public road to the Georgia line dividing Georgia from Alabama; and thence on that line to where the same intersects the County line of Carroll.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, that all that portion of the unlocated territory of this State, lying north of the aforesaid line, and south of the Hightower Trail, be added to the County of De Kalb, for the purposes of criminal jurisdiction, and that all crimes and misdemeanors committed on any part of the aforesaid territory, by or against any citizen of this State, or of the United States, shall be cognizable and triable in the aforesaid County of De Kalb."[5]

The act of 1827 did not add the Cherokee territory to the two counties mentioned; it only extended their legal jurisdiction over it. In the following year, however, Cherokee Georgia was divided into counties by an act entitled "An Act to add the Territory lying within the limits of this State, and occupied by the Cherokee Indians, to the counties of Carroll, De Kalb, Gwinnett, Hall and Habersham, and to extend the laws of this State over the same, and for other purposes."[6]

These preliminary steps in the extension of Georgia's authority over the Cherokee lands were taken for a dual purpose: To protect the lives and property of white settlers already there; and to improve conditions so as to induce further settlement of the Indian Territory. Infrequent Indian depredations and the lawless activities of a certain class of white men who had come into the territory served as a brake to its increased settlement and the consequent objective of getting rid of the Indians. Courts could now be held in the territory to mete out justice to the offenders.[7]

Time was running out for the aborigines in Georgia.

De Kalb County sent to the upper branch of the State Legislature, in 1827, a young lawyer of twenty-eight named William Ezzard.[8] He was one of the first barristers to hang out a shingle in Decatur. Many years later he built a brick home on the present site of the Piedmont Hotel in Atlanta. Senator Ezzard was to add the title of Judge and Mayor and to hold many positions of public trust before his death at the ripe age of eighty-eight.[9]

The founder of a noteworthy De Kalb, and later Fulton County family, was commissioned a Justice of the Inferior Court on October 29, 1827. James Paden was in fact, the last Justice to receive his commission from Governor' George M. Troup.[10] He was a native of Spartanburg District, South Carolina, and came to De Kalb shortly after its organization. His plantation occupied most of the land whereon is now situated the Druid Hills Golf Club course and the Emory University campus. Old Squire Paden died in 1864 and is buried in an unmarked grave in the Decatur Cemetery.[11]

The Inferior Court handled a variety of county business during the year. On May 7th, Samuel Rutledge and David Wright were appointed "to view and value the extra work done in and about the court house and report on oath so far as respects the windows of said house which has been done by Harbour and King." Apparently the work was acceptable for the County Treasurer was ordered to pay Harbour and King "$327.65 out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated."[12]

The following order was passed at the June term: "Ordered that the County Treasurer of De Kalb County pay to James Anderson, County Surveyor, the sum of $36.50 for running the line between De Kalb County and Newton County. Also the sum of $7.50 for ironing William Heard at sundrie times while in jail."[13] It would appear that Mr. Heard was a regular user of the jail facilities.

The fact that the early officials of De Kalb sometimes departed from regular line of duty was illustrated on April 28, 1827, when Jesse Sanford, tax collector, Alexander Corry, treasurer, and Larkin Carlton, coroner, held an inquest over the body of Samuel Davis.[14]

Rev. Adiel Sherwood, A.M. (1791-1879), practical historian, profound scholar and peerless preacher (Baptist), assured for himself immortality in the minds of countless students of Georgia history by the compilation and publication of a series of four *Gazetteers of the State,* 1827, 1829, 1837 and 1860. Both De Kalb County and Decatur are tersely described in the first issue:

> "DE KALB COUNTY is bounded by Gwinnett on the N; Newton on the E; Monroe and Fayette on the S and the Chattahoochee on the W. Pop. 3569. Decatur is the capital."
>
> "DECATUR p.t. and cap. De Kalb Co. contains C. House, Jail, Academy and 40 houses, stores, etc. It is 158 N.W. M. Many buildings are now erecting and it bids fair to be a large town."

The Rev. Mr. Sherwood reckoned all distances from Milledgeville, which place he described as the "metropolis of the state."[15]

The road builders of De Kalb, with pick, shovel, horse, mule and the official backing of the Inferior Court, carried on during the year. On June 5th it was ordered:

> "That a road be opened from the flat shoals on South River to Swinneys Mill as has been marked by James Morris and John Gunn."[16]

Flat Shoals, De Kalb County terminus of Flat Shoals Avenue in Atlanta and its continuation, Flat Shoals Road, in De Kalb, is now more commonly known as Panola Shoals. Swinney's Mill was located on Snapfinger Creek near the Covington Road.

An order of June 18, read:

> "Ordered that a road be cleared out and opened from or near the 7 mile post on Sandtown Road by Millally's? (name not clear in original record) store thence so as to touch the Fayette County line at lot #2 in 14 dist. at South line of lot 225, as has been marked out by James Blackstock, Joseph Stone and Thomas Higgins and kept up as a public road of De Kalb County."[17]

According to this description the road was located in what was then the southwest corner of De Kalb County and west of the present City of East Point. The Fayette County line cited in this order became the Campbell County line in 1828.

The Chattahoochee River became the target for numerous roads. On September 3 it was ordered "that Stephen Jett, James A. Davidson, Levi Dempsey and William Hardman be appointed to run and mark out a road leading from Decatur on by way of Harmony meeting house and on to the shoal where James Gober lives on Chattahoochee."[18] The writer is unable to locate Harmony meeting house or the shoal where James Gober lived on the Chattahoochee. However, he remembers, as a boy, an ancient frame church on Pace's Ferry Road, known as Harmony Grove. It stood next to the cemetery now located at the southwest corner of Chatham Road. It is exceedingly doubtful if this was the church referred to in 1827. The oldest tombstone in Harmony Grove Cemetery is that marking the grave of James H. Smith, 1804-1872. Smith, at the time of his death owned land lots 141 and 142 of the 17th District. Tuxedo Park now occupies lot No. 141.[19]

On September 4, 1827, "a petition was presented from a large and respectable number of the citizens requesting that a road may be established leading from Decatur to intersect the Peachtree Road at or near James Hooper's. Ordered that Silas McGrady, Varner Hardman, and James Hooper, Sr., are appointed to serve and mark out a road according to said petition and make a report to the next session of the Inferior Court."[20] James Hooper lived somewhere between the present towns of Chamblee and Doraville on Peachtree Road in Cross Keys District.[21]

De Kalb County acquired the progenitor of one of its most prominent families when James Hutchinson Kirkpatrick arrived from Morgan County, Georgia, in 1827. He was also probably the first native-born Irishman to settle permanently in De Kalb. Born in County Antrim in 1778, he was brought to America by his parents at the age of six. Before coming to De Kalb from Morgan, he and his wife, Ann Parks, had lived in Mecklenberg County, North Carolina and Jasper County, Georgia. At the time of his death, in 1853, he owned a thousand acres of land—upon which most of Kirkwood later developed. That community, now a part of the City of Atlanta, was named for the Kirkpatrick family. Aside from his extensive land holdings, James H. Kirkpatrick left a large estate in personal property, one of the largest in De Kalb at that time. Excluding realty and obligations due, but including eleven slaves, the estate was appraised by Ezekiel Mason, Joseph Pitts, Joseph F. Clay and L. S. Morgan at $11,157.00. His children, as named in the will were: Jane, wife of Joseph Morgan, and James W., Thomas M., Hugh P., John L., and William N. Kirkpatrick. Through the years their descendants have been useful citizens of the community.[22]

During the middle and late 1820's Decatur had many blacksmiths, tinners, shoemakers, harness and saddle makers, all of which home industry contributed to the prosperity of the town.[23]

One rough blacksmith is worthy of being perpetuated in memory. George D. Anderson was his name. After long hours at the forge, he studied under Rev. A. Kirkpatrick. Eventually he became a good lawyer, a solicitor-general of the Coweta Circuit and a judge of the Superior Court of the Cherokee Circuit.[24]

Levi Willard tells us[25] that Walter Wadsworth was the first tinsmith and that his kitchenware in infinite variety was sold all over the surrounding area. Wadsworth was a native of Hartford, Connecticut.[26] A Mr. Seay introduced the making of stills, and, in pounding sheet copper, annoyed the neighborhood with a noise worse than hotel gongs.[27]

John and David M. Simpson had a carriage shop in the northeast corner of the square. They carried on the business for some years, but not having steam or water power, or other facilities, they could not compete with northern manufacturers. Consequently they closed up.[28] John was the father of Leonard Christopher Simpson, born 1821, in later years to become Atlanta's first resident lawyer and for whom Simpson Street is named.[28a]

Joseph Shaw was the prince of shoemakers in Decatur in 1826, while his competitor, Richard Gettins, arrived a year or so later. He was noted for not having work done at the time he promised it. Another excellent artisan of the period was James McNeal, saddle and harness maker. He and his son Daniel were noted for their fine saddles.[29]

The first merchants in Decatur were William Gresham and Thomas Akin, both of whom set up shop at the time the town was founded.[30] Gresham moved to Cherokee County shortly after it was organized and became one of the original citizens of Canton. He died there in 1876.[31] The first barroom, or grocery as then designated, was opened by William M. Hill. In good demand at Hill's emporium were corn whiskey and peach and apple brandy.[32] In late life "Uncle Billy", as he was called, moved to Atlanta and became an auctioneer. He died in 1869 and is buried in Oakland Cemetery, grave unmarked.[33]

Five doctors settled in Decatur prior to 1830, three arriving in 1826. The first was a Dr. Hopkins, who remained but a short time. The second was a young man just entering practice, Dr. Ormond L. Morgan. He was well educated and gave evidence of great promise. His sudden death in the summer of 1826 made a deep impression on the young community. The second interment to be made in the newly opened Decatur cemetery was that of Dr. Morgan, the first having been a small child. Dr. Joseph Thompson was the third arrival of the year. Drs. Ezekiel N. Calhoun and Chapman Powell began practice in Decatur in 1827 or 1828. The last three subsequently moved to Atlanta and died there.[34]

Matthias Hilburn took up residence in Decatur January 1, 1827, purchasing a house on the southeast corner of the square and Fayette, now McDonough Street. Before moving to Arkansas about ten years later he succeeded in marrying his two daughters to a couple of young Decatur lawyers, William I. Howard and Alfred B. Greenwood.[35]

The latter, born in Franklin County, Georgia, 1811, moved to Bentonville, Arkansas in 1832 and lived there until his death in 1889. Among many public offices, he served in Congress as a Democrat from 1853 to 1859; Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1859-1861 and as a member of the Confederate House of Representatives, 1862-1865.[36]

NOTES—CHAPTER 5

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates*, II, 94-95.

[2] Marion L. Starkey, *The Cherokee Nation* (New York, 1946), 109.

[3] Thomas H. Martin, *Atlanta and Its Builders* (2 vols. Atlanta, 1902), I, 15. Hereafter cited as Martin, *Atlanta*.

[4] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*, 207.

[5] *Ga. Laws*, 1827, pp. 99-101.

[6] *Ibid.*, 1828, pp. 88-89; Lloyd B. Martin, *The History of Cherokee County* (Atlanta, 1932), 17. Hereafter cited as Martin, *Cherokee County*.

[7] Martin, *Cherokee County*, 18.

[8] Blair, *Official Register*, 1927, p. 440.

[9] "Garrett's Necrology".

[10] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[11] "Garrett's Necrology"; Will of James Paden, De Kalb County Ordinary's Office.

[12] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 44.

[13] *Ibid.*, June term, 1827.

[14] *Ibid.*, 51.

[15] Adiel Sherwood, *A Gazetteer of the State of Georgia*, 1827, (facsimile reprint, Athens, Ga., 1939).

[16] Minutes I. C., DeKalb, 47.

[17] *Ibid.*, 49.

[18] *Ibid.*, 50.

[19] "Garrett's Necrology"; Phillips's Map of Fulton County, 1872.

[20] Minutes I. C., DeKalb, 52.

[21] U. S. Census De Kalb County, 1850.

[22] "Garrett's Necrology"; Will and Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of James H. Kirkpatrick, De Kalb County Ordinary's Office; Minutes Superior Court, De Kalb County, Book A, p. 23.

[23] Sarge Plunkett, "In Old De Kalb", *loc. cit.*

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *De Kalb New Era,* Feb. 3, 1921.

[26] Tombstone inscription, Decatur Cemetery.

[27] Willard, "Decatur", *De Kalb New Era,* Feb. 3, 1921.

[28] *Ibid.*

[28a] "Garrett's Necrology".

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 4.

[31] "Garrett's Necrology".

[32] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 4.

[33] "Garrett's Necrology".

[34] *Ibid.;* Willard, "Decatur," *loc. cit.*

[35] Willard, "Decatur", *De Kalb New Era,* Jan. 27, 1921.

[36] *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1927.* (Washington, D. C., 1928), 1033.

CHAPTER 6

1828

THE long and bitter controversy upon the subject of state's rights, culminating more than a generation later in internecine warfare assumed tangible form this year. On December 19, 1828, the South Carolina legislature adopted eight resolutions, drafted by John C. Calhoun, protesting against the tariff as unconstitutional. These resolutions constituted a first formal statement of the doctrine of nullification.[1] Many citizens of De Kalb, then in early childhood, or as yet unborn, were to perish upon the battlefield before this argument was finally settled.

Earlier in the year, on April 21, language, the only art which affects all people, took a long forward step. Noah Webster, after years of preparation, issued, not his first dictionary, but his first all-inclusive one and the forerunner of the immense unabridged volumes of the present day. This pioneer effort, in two volumes, was titled: "An American Dictionary of the English Language." That Webster rightfully felt he was bequeathing a valuable legacy to posterity is illustrated by a quotation from *Rambler,* printed on the title page: "He that wishes to be counted among the benefactors of posterity, must add, by his own toil, to the acquisition of his ancestors."[2] It was not long before this dictionary, or its successors, became a part of the library, however modest that library may have been, of most literate families, including those of De Kalb County, and a fixture too, in the schoolrooms of the nation.

Two pioneer churches of De Kalb, Mount Zion and Prospect, both Methodist, were founded in 1828 at opposite ends of the County, the former now in Fulton, the latter still in De Kalb.

Mount Zion was organized by Rev. James Mangum, Aaron Knight, William Avery, Thomas Ward and John Evans on the public road which is now Stewart Avenue, a mile and a half north of the future town of Hapeville. The first church was a log structure, built for a schoolhouse, and Methodist Services were first held there by Aaron Knight, a farmer, who also preached. Rev. James Mangum was the first regular pastor. The original deed to the acre lot was from John Eaton to the church trustees, "for the worship of God."[3]

The Rev. Mr. Mangum and his younger half-brother, William, were the founders of a well known family which included Nathaniel Mangum, antebellum Atlanta lawyer, Robert E. Mangum, early ordinary of Fulton County and C. Wheeler Mangum, late sheriff of Fulton. Mangum Street in Atlanta, bears the family name.[4]

Discipline was strict at Mount Zion in the old days. Absence from church was not tolerated and though many of its members had to travel long miles over muddy roads in buggies and like conveyances they were expected to be in their places at the appointed time. Casual attendance was sufficient cause for dismissal.[5]

About 1830 the log building was replaced by a white weatherboarded frame structure, which, with some additions through the years, stood until 1938. This building was demolished to make way for the present brick structure.[6] Old Mount Zion is looked upon as the mother of the Hapeville, Jones Chapel and East Point Methodist churches.[7]

Some of the pioneer citizens who rest from their labors in the yard surrounding Mount Zion are: James and William Mangum, William Avery, Elisha B. Burnham, Joseph Caldwell, Jeremiah S. Gilbert, Dr. Ely Griffin, Aaron Knight, Andrew P. McCool, Samuel G. Pegg, Thomas J. and Angus M. Perkerson, son and grandson of old Dempsey Perkerson of De Kalb, Thomas M. Poole, son of Adam, Richard and Edward M. Talliaferro and many others, some marked, some not.[8]

Prospect Methodist was the second church to adorn Peachtree Road, being antedated only by Nancy Creek Baptist. Immediately after its organization the congregation erected a split log building as a house of worship. Among the charter members of this church, located just north of Chamblee in Cross Keys District, were Stephen Tilly, John M. Ridling and the Ballingers, together with their respective families.[9]

Some of the sleepers in the old Prospect graveyard are the charter members just mentioned and Jesse H. Adams, Asa Braswell, J. W. Buchanan, J. B. Davidson, James S. Elliott, George N. Flowers, Ewell C. Hardman, Samuel House, William McElroy, Joseph Stewart, Isham Stovall, and Ebenezer and J. W. F. Tilly.[10]

The De Kalb County officers elected in 1826 were all reelected in 1828 except that John Brown succeeded David R. Sullivan as sheriff.[11] Stephen Mays replaced Jacob R. Brooks as a representative in the lower branch of the legislature,[12] while Governor John Forsyth commissioned two new justices of the Inferior Court, James Lemon on January 21 and William Latimer on July 18.[13]

James Lemon (1794-1849) was a charter member of the Decatur Presbyterian Church and prominent in the early affairs of De Kalb generally. He was born in Anderson District, South Carolina, son of Robert Lemon and came to De Kalb with his father in 1821, before the county was organized. He had seen service in the War of 1812. In 1843 he moved to Marietta and thence to near Acworth where he died and is buried in Mars Hill Cemetery. His son, Smith Lemon, was the founder of the S. Lemon Banking Company in Acworth.[14]

The fact that James Anderson, county surveyor, was a versatile man was succinctly set forth in an Inferior Court order of July 15, 1828: "Ordered that the County Treasurer of De Kalb County pay to James Anderson the sum of $6. for surveying a part of the town lot and mending jail lock out of county funds. Also $1.25 for arresting a woman out of any money arising from fines and forfeitures."[15]

Road building, as usual, continued to have the best attention of the Inferior Court. During March two important roads were ordered opened and cleared out. First was the road "from the three mile post leading from Decatur towards Peachtree to Peachtree at or near James Hooper's on said Peachtree Road." The other was the road leading from Decatur to the Shallowford on Chattahoochee River as has been marked by Naman Hardman and Lindsey M. Post.[16]

On October 20th, the Inferior Court held a special meeting "for purpose of appointing a Commissioner to act in the place of Adam Poole in laying out a Road from Howell's Ferry on Chattahoochee to Cross Roads or George's store, as said Poole refuses to act as a Commissioner."[17]

It is the writer's opinion that Howell's Ferry, in 1828, was operated across the Chattahoochee on or about the present site of the Adamsville Road crossing at Garrett's Bridge, by Isaac Howell, brother of Evan Howell, of Gwinnett County. Evan was the great-great-grandfather of Major Clark Howell, publisher of the Atlanta *Constitution*. Cross Roads or George's store was the predecessor of Lithonia.[18]

By act of the legislature in 1828, Gwinnett County lost ground to De Kalb. The significant part of the act reads: "That lot number 307 and fraction number 308 in the sixth district of the County of Gwinnett, whereon Radford Gunn now lives, is hereby attached to and made a part of the County of De Kalb."[19] This land is now in the Shallowford District of De Kalb where lot No. 307 is bisected north and south by the Winter's Chapel Road. The Chapel itself is just south of the lot line in the sixth district of Gwinnett.

As indicative of the citizenry of 1828, the following Inferior Court jury list, drawn May 16, is quoted. Spelling of names follows original minutes:

1. J. McC. Montgomery
2. Nealy Goodwin
3. Hiram Buckley
4. James Campbell
5. Newton Randal
6. Benjamin Vines
7. William Baker
8. Willis Roberts
9. William Carr
10. Lochlin Johnson
11. Edward C. Harris
12. S. L. Wilson
13. John B. Holbrooks
14. Sidney Smith
15. Daniel Furgerson
16. John Hesterly
17. Ellis Swinney
18. Elijah Williams
19. James Millican
20. John Townsend
21. Jordan Webb
22. Robert Jones
23. William Lawson
24. Lodawick Tuggle
25. William Conn
26. W. P. Forster
27. James Adams
28. Williford Grogan
29. Joseph Woodall
30. Jesse Williams
31. John Woodall
32. J. V. Kilgore
33. Shadrick Farmer
34. B. D. Shumate
35. William Robertson
36. Naman Hardman[20]

J. McC. Montgomery was excused from jury duty upon the plea that his duties as Postmaster of Standing Peachtree precluded his attendance at court.[21]

De Kalb County lost ground, but acquired a new neighbor to the southwest by legislative act when Campbell County was created on December 20, 1828.[22] It was made from parts of Carroll, Coweta, De Kalb and Fayette and included within its borders the historic Indian village sites of Buzzard's Roost and Sandtown. The mouth of Utoy Creek became the southwestern corner of De Kalb. The new county bore the name of Duncan G. Campbell, noted Georgian of the early ante-bellum period and pioneer advocate of female education in Georgia. He died at forty-two on July 31, 1828, five months before the honor was conferred upon him.[23]

As early as 1826, there resided in that part of Carroll County included in Campbell, the Colquitts and Randalls, Mrs. Randall being a sister of John and Walter T. Colquitt, the latter, becoming in after years, a noted jurist. They lived near Pumpkintown Ferry on the Chattahoochee. Early in 1829, when the matter of a county seat for the new county was up for consideration, Judge Colquitt proposed Pumpkintown. But he had competition.[24]

Eight miles upstream the Camp brothers, Alfred, George and Lane, owned large plantations, adjoining which was the uncleared tract of Frank Irwin. The latter planned a town called Campbellton, twenty-two miles from the future site of Atlanta, and offered free lots to those who would live upon them. It was accepted as the county site and Pumpkintown lost. The Colquitts, disgusted, moved to La Grange, the Randalls to Alabama.[25]

A substantial brick courthouse was erected in 1829 upon a hill overlooking the Chattahoochee River, which building was characterized by a writer twenty years later as "far too large for the county".[26] During the same year the Campbellton Academy was incorporated.[27]

The decline of Campbellton and its eventual abandonment as a county seat in 1870 in favor of Fairburn on the Atlanta & West Point Railroad will be treated in a subsequent chapter. Campbell County itself, lost its identity on January 1, 1932, when it was merged with and made a part of Fulton County.

However "Old Campbell" as it will be referred to for many years to come, contributed to Atlanta many of its best citizens, past and present.

General Alfred Austell, Captain William J. Garrett and John Silvey, while born elsewhere, lived in Campbell before moving to Atlanta. W. Rhode Hill was born in Campbellton and later built a handsome home on the present site of J. P. Allen & Company's store at Peachtree and Cain streets. His daughter Helen married the late J. Carroll Payne, of Atlanta. Jett W. Rucker, of the old Maddox-Rucker Banking Company lived in Campbell before moving to Atlanta. Our present fellow-citizen James Walter Mason came from Campbell and is a grandson of James Mason, a pioneer of the Enon Church neighborhood.[28]

Other Campbell County families who contributed substantially to the population of Atlanta, were the Kiser's Barge's, Latham's, Camp's, Longino's, Campbell's, Stewart's and many, many others.[29]

NOTES—CHAPTER 6

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 95.

[2] Harry R. Warfel, *Noah Webster, Schoolmaster to America* (New York, 1934), 345, 363.

[3] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 39-40.

[4] "Garrett's Necrology."

[5] Luke Greene, "Passing of Old Mt. Zion Stirs Memories", *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept 12, 1938.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] "Garrett's Necrology".

[9] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 15.

[10] "Garrett's Necrology".

[11] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[12] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321.

[13] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[14] "Garrett's Necrology"; Southern Historical Association, *Memoirs of Georgia* (2 vols. Atlanta, 1895) I, 505.

[15] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 63.

[16] *Ibid.,* 58.

[17] *Ibid.,* 66.

[18] "Garrett's Necrology".

[19] *Ga. Laws,* 1828, p. 54.

[20] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 59.

[21] *Ibid.,* 64.

[22] *Ga. Laws,* 1828, pp. 56-58.

[23] Knight, *Landmarks,* I, 363.

[24] *Ibid.,* II, 618.

[25] *Ibid.,* 619.

[26] George White, *Statistics of Georgia* (Savannah, 1849), 144. Hereafter cited as White, *Statistics.*

[27] *Ga. Laws,* 1829, 57.

[28] "Garrett's Necrology".

[29] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 7

1829

TWO events of 1829 boded ill for the Cherokee Indians and served to hasten the day for their final removal from the state less than a decade later. One was the inauguration of Andrew Jackson as President of the United States. The other was the discovery of gold in the neighborhood of the future town of Dahlonega.

Jackson knew Indians. He had fought with and against them for a generation, mostly against. In any controversy between white men and red men Jackson was on the side of the white men. Certainly his actions relative to the Cherokees in Georgia, after becoming President, illustrate this tendency forcibly. Removal of the Cherokee Indians to the west was a measure of which he heartily approved.[1]

The discovery of gold in the extreme eastern part of the Cherokee Nation in July, 1829, insured the early extinguishment of the Indian's land titles within the state and set the stage for the first actual collision between Georgia and the Cherokee Nation. As gold invariably attracted white men, so also it attracted numerous Cherokees, the latter having picked up many aspects of white civilization.[2]

By early 1830 some four thousand whites were reportedly crowded into the gold fields, and the Indians having joined in the general scramble to the new El Dorado, clashes were both inevitable and frequent. The discovery of gold gave to Georgia officials renewed impetus for their Indian removal plans. Indeed the plain folk of the state, to whom the ownership of upstate country made little difference, could now be made to see the urgency of the matter when shown that the disputed hills and valleys held gold.[3]

During 1829, while the gold fever was running a high temperature, the Creek-Cherokee boundary question came to the fore. Since the Creeks had departed for the west and their former domain was held by Georgia, it behooved the state to place the boundary as far north as possible. The Cherokees on the other hand claimed that the line ran from the Chattahoochee River along the northern boundary of what was then (1829) Campbell and Carroll counties.[4]

Georgia claimed however, that the line lay much farther north. Governor Forsyth reported to the legislature on November 4, 1829, that Colonel Wales, representing Georgia, had collected sufficient evidence to indicate that "the proper line between the tribes, in November, 1827, began at Suwannee Old Town on the Hightower to its junction with the Ostenalah, and thence by the old Creek path, to the Alabama line".[5] The Indians often referred to the Etowah River as the Hightower.

The disputed territory held more than one million acres, enough land to form four counties, each larger than De Kalb County was at the time. The following year, 1830, the dispute was settled by the United States, the result being that Georgia acquired less than half the area claimed, namely, 464,646 acres.[6]

The line agreed upon, known as Coffee's Line, and approved by the President in 1830, began at Shallowford on the Chattahoochee and ran slightly southwest of due west to the Alabama line; thence into that state to a point near the present city of Gadsden. The territory thus acquired included the locations of the future towns of Marietta, Douglasville, Smyrna and several others.[7]

The primary significance of this boundary settlement, insofar as De Kalb County was concerned, was inclusion of the territory just across the river from De Kalb. The coveted Chattahoochee bottom lands had been gained for the whites and, were therefore opened to unrestricted settlement.[8] A goodly number of the early settlers of De Kalb moved across the river into the newly acquired territory.[9]

By this time some of the Cherokees had adopted many facets of the white man's way of the life. Governor William Carroll of Tennessee was commissioned by the United States in 1829 to visit the Cherokees for the purpose of encouraging them to emigrate. While his mission was not crowned with immediate results, his report is interesting. It read, in part, as follows:

> "The advancement the Cherokees have made in morality, religion, general information, and agriculture astonishes me beyond measure. They have regular preachers in the churches; the use of spirituous liquors is in a great degree prohibited; their farms are worked much after the manner of the white people and are generally in good order. They were supplied with looms and spinning wheels, as well as farm implements. One of their gifted men, Sequoyah had invented an alphabet of eighty letters, which has been described as the most remarkable feat of its kind since Cadmus. At their capital, New Echota,[10] they publish a newspaper, the *Phoenix*, in their own language. They insisted that they were a sovereign nation, over whom Georgia had no jurisdiction."[11]

This insistence was a major contributing factor to their undoing.

Certain Cherokees, who could afford them, owned slaves. A census of their nation taken in 1825 revealed the following statistics: native Cherokees, 13,563; white men married into the nation, 147; white women married into the nation. 73; Negro slaves, 1,277.[12]

Of course the advancement of the Cherokees in the arts of civilization was largely attributable to the teachings of white men who went among them, trading, preaching or as fugitives from justice, and to the intermixture of blood resulting from this close association. While the Indians, as a nation, took quickly to advanced ideas, the rank and file continued to follow the irresponsible and unilluminated lives of their ancestors to their final removal. Their chiefs and leaders, men like John Ross and Elias Boudinot, nearly all had a certain amount of white blood in their veins, and were of the wealthier, slave-owning class.[13]

In spite of their progress however, the tenure of the Cherokees in Georgia was destined to be short. Relentless pressure was growing ever more relentless.

The indefatigable Rev. Mr. Sherwood published a second edition of his *State Gazetteer* in 1829. Decatur is described with Baconian brevity: "Decatur received name in honor of Stephen Decatur. C. H., Jail, Academy, and about fifty houses and stores. . . . healthy spot, though it was visited for the first time by the bilious fever in 1828."[14] Sherwood also recorded that "De Kalb received Academy fund of $1267.05 and Poor school fund of $639.30." These amounts were received out of the state tax and were probably for 1828.[15]

The Justice of the Peace, or Magistrate as he was sometimes called, was an important local functionary in rural Georgia up to comparatively recent times. Generally addressed as "Squire," he served as a sounding board for his neighbors' disagreements and troubles. "Going to law," usually meant a trip to see the "Magistrate," of whom there were customarily two for each militia district. In a day and place where erudition was rare, the generally meager educational equipment and modest legal knowledge of the Justice of the Peace was regarded with some deference.

Between January 10 and April 11, 1829 a completely new slate of Justices of the Peace took office in De Kalb. Their names and those of the districts in which they functioned are worthy of preservation.[17]

Name	Militia District	Remarks
James Donehoo Thomas Kennedy	479th 479th	Present Bryants, Pooles, Adamsville, East Point and part of College Park districts of Fulton County. Bryants is still numbered 479.
William Gresham Alexander Corry	531st 531st	Present Decatur, District of De Kalb. Still numbered 531.
Moses Murphey Thomas Austin	637th 637th	Present Evans and parts of Clarkston, Redan and Stone Mountain Districts of De Kalb. Evans is still numbered 637.
Charles C. Hickman John Stephenson	487th 487th	Present Phillips, McWilliams and part of Lithonia District of De Kalb. Phillips is still numbered 487.
Micajah Goodwin James Wofford	524th 524th	Present Shallowford and Doraville Districts of De Kalb and Grogans, of Fulton. Shallowford is still numbered 524.
James Hendley James Diamond	563rd 563rd	Present Diamond's and part of present Stone Mountain, Lithonia and Redan Districts of De Kalb. Diamond is still numbered 563.
Shadrach Farmer James Word	572nd 572nd	Present Browning's and part of Clarkston and Stone Mountain Districts of De Kalb. Browning is still numbered 572.
William J. Cowan Lemuel Dean	683rd 683rd	Present Lithonia and parts of Redan and McWilliams Districts of De Kalb. Lithonia is still numbered 683.

Name	Militia District	Remarks
James H. Bell James W. Reeve	686th 686th	Present Cross Keys District of De Kalb and parts of Buckhead and Oak Grove Districts of Fulton. Cross Keys is still numbered 686.
Jesse Fulcher John Beasley	722nd 722nd	Present Buckhead and Oak Grove and part of Collins District of Fulton. Buckhead is still numbered 722.
Sylvanus Walker Samuel L. Wilson	530th 530th	Present Blackhall, South Bend, Hapeville and part of College Park District of Fulton County. Blackhall is still numbered 530. It was from part of this district and part of the 469th that the new Atlanta District No. 1026 was formed in 1846.
John Dabbs Samuel Walker	469th 469th	Present Cooks, Center Hill, Peachtree and part of Collin's Districts of Fulton County. Cook's is still numbered 469.
John Morris Thomas B. Lanier	536th 536th	Present Panthersville. Mill's and East Atlanta Districts of De Kalb. Panthersville is still numbered 536.

Road and bridge building continued throughout the year. On April 6, Messrs. Lochlin Johnson, Lemuel Cobb and Aaron Starns certified to the Inferior Court that "we receive the bridge across South river on the road from Decatur to McDonough."[18]

Under date of May 4, the Court appointed Lewis Peacock, Thomas Smith and Thomas L. Thomas "to view and mark out a road from James Brewster on the road leading from Decatur to Coweta County on by the Methodist meeting house near John M. Smith's through the corner of the 14th dist. of originally Fayette now Campbell and De Kalb the nearest and best route on the line of Campbell and De Kalb counties."[19]

The Methodist meeting house referred to in this order was Mount Gilead Church near Ben Hill.

We must infer from the following order, dated July 14, 1829, that Peachtree Road had been allowed to sprout a crop of weeds and bushes: "Ordered that the road leading through De Kalb County from the line of Gwinnett County, known by the name of the Peachtree Road be opened and kept up as a public road of said county." This order was signed by James Lemon, James Paden, Thomas Ray, J. I. C.[20]

Standing Peachtree continued to be both the Alpha and Omega for public roads. On November 25 it was ordered, "that a road be opened and cleared out from the Standing Peachtree to Leonard Hornsby's in Terms of the Law and kept up as a publick Road as has been marked out by Hiram Buckley, Wesley Martin and Lindsey Elsberry."[21] Hornsby lived on the present site of East Point.

Lindsey Elsberry, an original settler of De Kalb, attended Franklin College, now the University of Georgia, at Athens and served in the War of 1812. Upon coming to De Kalb he settled on the lower reaches of Peachtree Creek. Shortly after the creation of Paulding County in 1832, he moved thither and settled at the foot of the mountain still called Elsberry Mountain, on the Dallas-Acworth Road near New Hope Church. He died in 1864 or 1865 and is buried in an unmarked grave at old Shady Grove Cemetery, just off the Burnt Hickory Road in Paulding County.[22]

The Chattahoochee River became somewhat less of a barrier to travelers shortly after issuance of the following order by the Interior Court, dated May 4, 1829:

> "On application ordered that Reuben Martin be authorized to establish a ferry on the Chattahoochee river above the Shallow Ford at a place now known as Martin's Ferry and be allowed to charge the following rates as toll; for every road wagon loaded crossing .62; empty .50; cart or two horse wagon .37; for a gig or one horse carriage of any description .25; for a man and a single horse .12.
>
> "Footman or lead horse, .06¼; cattle .04 a head; hogs and sheep .02 a head, provided he goes bond on a good security in the sum of $1000. for the keeping of a good flat and faithful performance of the duties of ferryman."[23]

Martin's Ferry lay about one-half mile east, or upstream from the present Roswell Bridge in Land Lot 366 of the 6th (Grogan's) District. By 1864 the property had come into the hands of the Grogan family for whom the district was named. The war maps of that year designate the location as "Grogan's Ferry."[24]

When Milton County, now part of Fulton, was created in 1857, the ridge, or Martin's Ferry Road, was designated as one of its boundaries.[25]

By act of the legislature in 1829 a small amount of territory and a very unusual citizen were acquired by De Kalb County. The pertinent part of the act read:

> "Fraction number two hundred and forty-eight, in the sixth district of Gwinnett County, whereon Joseph Gault resides, shall be attached to, and made a part of the county of De Kalb."[26]

Fractional lot 248 is a thin sliver of land lying at the intersection of the old Hightower Trail and Peachtree Road, this being the present boundary at that point between De Kalb and Gwinnett counties.

Joseph Gault (1794-1879) was born in Union District, South Carolina, and, after service in the War of 1812, taught school for awhile in his native state. He found this profession dull and sought recreation in foot racing wherein he became remarkably adept. In after years he said of himself that he "ran foot races from the seaboard at Charleston to the mountains of Georgia."[27]

He came to Georgia in 1820 and, as just noted, became a citizen of De Kalb County by legislative act in 1829. Three years later when Cobb County was organized, he moved thence under his own power, without legislative assistance. In 1836 he began the practice of law in Marietta and has always been credited with the distinction of being "Marietta's first lawyer."

Some years later Mr. Gault wrote of his early legal experience in his remarkable pamphlets entitled *Gault's Reports*:

> "I commenced the practice of law late in life [at 42], without friends, without patronage—without wealth—with a limited education and without much book knowledge—but a better knowledge, that of man—very necessary for a lawyer—for he ought to know the workings of the human heart, and if he does, he will extract from it virtues which adorn, or vices which degrade it.
>
> ". . . A large dependent family of females hath compelled me to take all the fees I could honestly get, and to practice extensively and successfully in the Justice's courts, where the law is rendered very complex from the profundity of its expounders. I have labored very industriously to ascertain its true intent and meaning from their application. . . . The young aspirant for legal fame and honor has in these courts a luxuriant field in which he may gather a rich harvest of legal learning. He may dispense with the classic Blackstone and the quaint and learned Coke, and if he wishes to build up his reputation, I would advise him to lay in his materials at those quarries of legal science."[28]

Were Joseph Gault writing his Reports today he would find it difficult to escape legal action for libel, for in revealing an intimate picture of the times in which he lived, he damned where damning was due and awarded praise where merited, all by name. The Citizens' Cemetery in Marietta holds the dust of this unusual and noted citizen, whose likeness will not be seen again.[29]

De Kalb County outgrew its original log courthouse in less than seven years. So, in 1829, a neat brick building was erected in the center of the present Square at a cost of $5,100. It was completed by George Tomlinson, the contractor, and accepted by the Inferior Court on April 21.[30] During the month of March, James Lemon had been paid $10 with which to purchase materials for glazing the courthouse and Thomas Ray $15 for making steps to the door.[31] Thirteen years later the neat brick building of 1829 was to serve as an incinerator for practically all of the county records.

The young clerk of the Inferior Court, Charles Murphey, enlarged the scope of his public responsibilities in January, 1829, by becoming Trustee of the Poor School Fund.

During the same year James M. Calhoun, then a youth of eighteen and recently orphaned, came to Decatur from his birthplace in Calhoun settlement, Abbeville District, South Carolina, to live with his older brother, Dr. Ezekiel N. Calhoun. After two years in the Decatur Academy under David Kiddoo, he commenced the study of law in the office of Hines Holt and was admitted to the bar in 1832.[32] He and Charles Murphey became fast friends and each an ornament to the early De Kalb County bar.

Among the newly constituted churches received into the Yellow River Baptist Association in 1829 were Fellowship in De Kalb and Campbellton, in Campbell County.[33] Both are still in existence, Fellowship being located in Browning's District near the present town of Tucker. Among those who rest in the old Fellowship Cemetery, site of the original church and only a short distance from the present church and cemetery are, Rev. Isaiah Parker, Charles Whitlock, William Beauchamp, Andrew Browning, for whom the District was named, Sgt. Daniel Fones, of the First Rhode Island Regiment, Revolutionary War, Aaron and John Goza, Edward Levell, a Revolutionary soldier, Larkin Nash and Martin Thompson, De Kalb pioneers all.[34]

It is reasonably certain that no one in De Kalb County paid any attention to or even knew about an event which occurred in far away England on October 6, 1829. In a trial of locomotive engines, a prize offered by the Liverpool and Manchester Railroad was won by George Stephenson's "Rocket", which attained a speed of 35 miles an hour.[35]

This was the first really successful steam locomotive. Its immediate descendants were to contribute mightily to the progress of De Kalb County in little more than a decade.

NOTES—CHAPTER 7

[1] Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* 122, *ff.*

[2] *Ibid.,* 110-111.

[3] *Ibid.,* 112.

[4] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 208.

[5] *Ibid.,* 208; quoted from *Georgia House Journal,* 1829, p. 10.

[6] *Ibid.,* 209.

[7] Royce, *Indian Cessions,* Plate CXXII.

[8] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 209.

[9] "Garrett's Necrology".

[10] Located at the confluence of the Oostanalah and Coosawattee rivers and Cooychutte Creek near what is now Calhoun in Gordon County. *Cf.* Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* map, p. 27.

[11] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 11.

[12] *Ibid.*

[13] *Ibid.,* 11-12.

[14] Sherwood's *Gazetteer of Georgia,* 1829, p. 103.

[15] *Ibid.,* 104.

[16] Omitted.

[17] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta; Remarks by the present writer, aided by modern county maps.

[18] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 73.

[19] *Ibid.,* 74.

[20] *Ibid.,* 80.

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] As told to Franklin M. Garrett on Oct. 18, 1936, by Beecher Elsberry, grandson of Lindsey, at his home, R.F.D. No. 3, Douglasville, Ga.

[23] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 74-75.

[24] Stephens Mitchell, "The Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *loc. cit.,* 39.

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] *Ga. Laws,* 1829, p. 30.

[27] Temple, *Cobb County,* 166.

[28] *Ibid.,* 166-167. Quoted from Joseph Gault, *Fifth Edition of His Reports, A Coat of Many Colors* (reprint, Americus, Ga., 1902), 2-3.

[29] Temple, *Cobb County,* 167; "Garrett's Necrology".

[30] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 73.

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 639.

[33] John D. Humphries, "The Yellow River Baptist Association", *A.H.B.,* XII (Dec. 1937), 64.

[34] "Garrett's Necrology".

[35] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* I, 204.

Section IV

The Eighteen-Thirties

More Pioneers. Railroad Building Begins
A Future City Starts Modestly as "The Terminus"

CHAPTER 8

1830

NEWS of the successful demonstration of steam motive power on the Liverpool and Manchester was not long in reaching the United States. It served as a priming charge to set off a veritable deluge of railroad building projects in this country. Indeed the decade of the 1830's is best remembered for the tremendous changes wrought upon the land by the laying of iron rails.

Even so, it was not until 1837 that the trees and soil of De Kalb County were disturbed by the railroad builders, though steps were taken during the earlier years of the decade to insure their disturbance.

Meanwhile, during 1830, the Petersburg Railroad, in Virginia, the Pontchartrain Railroad in Louisiana, the Lexington (Ky.) and Ohio, the Camden and Amboy, in New Jersey, the Delaware and Raritan and the Boston and Lowell railroads were chartered; the Baltimore and Ohio operated its first train a distance of thirteen miles on May 24,[1] and, in December, the *Best Friend,* first locomotive built for actual service in America, made a passenger carrying trip out of Charleston over the South Carolina Railroad, now part of the Southern Railway system.[2] The efficiency of the steam railroad was being demonstrated close to home.

During the same year James Camack, William Williams, William Dearing and others erected the Princeton Factory near Athens. Machinery for the factory was purchased in New England; shipped from there to Savannah by water, and thence up the Savannah River to Augusta. There it was loaded on wagons, each drawn by six mules, for the overland trip to Athens. The caravan set forth during the winter months when rains and snows had changed the roads to rivers of mud.

Near what is now Union Point in Greene County the heavy vehicles bogged down hub deep in the quagmire. There they remained until spring weather made it possible to dig them out. The exasperated factory owners then and there decided to build a railroad to Athens with private capital. This decision led, three years later, to the chartering of the Georgia Railroad Company,[3] the line of which was to reach De Kalb County during the middle of the next decade.

De Kalb acquired its first printing office and newspaper in 1830 when Samuel Wright Miner moved to Decatur from McDonough and inaugurated the De Kalb *Gazette.* In McDonough he had published the *Jacksonian* and claimed that he was the first man to mention Andrew Jackson for president. Miner set up shop on a street leading from the academy to the cemetery. The former stood on the corner of what is now East Ponce de Leon Avenue and the northern extension of North Candler Street. The boys who attended the academy treated Editor Miner in a way that he did not like, so he soon pulled up stakes and left Decatur, never to return. The next local newspaper was the *Decatur Watchman,* published by a man named Riley and edited by George K. Smith, Esq.[4]

The following Inferior Court order, dated November 15, 1830, presaged De Kalb County's first legal execution:

(Photographed August, 1950 by J. Hixon Kinsella, Atlanta)

One of the very few remaining plantation houses from the decade of the 1830's in the Atlanta Area. Built about 1835 by Robert H. Smith (1802-1875) and still in the family. Now (1950) owned and occupied by his great-granddaughter, Miss Tullie Smith. Located at 2890 North Druid Hills Road, between Buford Highway and Briarcliff Road, Decatur District, De Kalb County. When the house was built, the road was a segment of the Decatur-Powers Ferry Road. Later it became Roxboro Road, and finally North Druid Hills

"Ordered that the County Treasurer of De Kalb County pay Thomas Kennedy the sum of $13.50 for holding an inquest over the body of James Crowder and Elizabeth Crowder there being no Coroner at that time."[5]

An article in the *Atlanta Constitution* of September 22, 1883, entitled "Only 3 Men Have Been Hung in the History of De Kalb County," described the Crowder case as follows:

"The first hanging in De Kalb occurred in 1829[6] when a white man by the name of Crowder paid the death penalty. He had murdered his wife and then set fire to his dwelling consuming the body of his murdered wife and his three young children. Crowder, after the commission of his crime, went to the back of his lot, cut his own throat with his razor and evidently thought thus to escape human justice. He was found, however, and lived. His crime was brought home to him in the most unmistakable manner and he was tried, convicted and hung. The occasion was one of great importance to the people of this section. It drew an immense crowd to Decatur and the above facts were given to the *Constitution* reported by a gentleman still living who was present at the hanging."

The Inferior Court order gives a clue to the approximate site of this fiendish crime in that the inquest was conducted by Thomas Kennedy in lieu of the coroner. It probably took place near Kennedy's home which was on the Sandtown (Cascade) Road at the present southeast intersection of that road and the Adamsville-Fairburn Road. The old house was standing until a few years ago.

Thomas Kennedy, incidentally, was one of the original settlers of De Kalb County. He was born in Union District, South Carolina, in 1785 and, upon removal to De Kalb, took up some of the fine Utoy Creek bottom lands adjoining those of William Wilson, who settled just to the north. Kennedy died in 1863 and, together with his wife, Margaret Macomson, and several of his children and relatives, lies buried in his family cemetery atop a hill at the northwest intersection of Cascade Road and the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in Land Lot No. 10 of the 14th District of what is now Fulton County.[7]

Inspired no doubt by the discovery of gold in Habersham County, a gold fever took possession of De Kalb in 1830. As related by Sarge Plunkett,[8] "Oliver Clarke, Reuben Cone, Alexander Corry, Jesse Fain, James White and William Ezzard formed what was known as the Decatur Gold Mining Company and went wild in looking for the precious metal. They brought to the county Kenneth Gillis, a much learned man, who could talk of strata and substrata, of stars in the heavens and of things beneath the earth. It was never known who 'salted' Avery's spring branch, but 'salted' it was, and the Decatur Gold Mining Company went to pieces a much sadder, but a much wiser set of men than they were when Kenneth Gillis came among them."

The outstanding natural wonder of De Kalb County, Stone Mountain, became the subject of a descriptive article in the Macon *Telegraph* of April 3, 1830.[9]

"The Stone Mountain is a huge solid peak of solitary rock, three thousand feet in height, and six or seven miles in circumference. The finest view of this stupendous pyramid is obtained from the eastern side. Seen from this point at a distance, it has the appearance of a large dark cloud streaked with thunder and lightning. Approach it nearer, and its figure and consistence become distinguishable; you see the bold, naked rock, nearly globular in form, of a darkish gray colour. On climbing it, the shrubs and bushes are scattered so thinly over its sides among the crevices, that it appears nearly bald. About half way up to the right of your path is pointed out a small tuft of scrub cedars and oaks, designated as the Buzzard's Roost, from the number of those birds hovering about the spot.

"About a quarter of a mile from the top are seen the remains of a fortification that formerly extended around and defended every accessible point leading to the summit, the only entrance being through a natural passage under a large rock, where only one person could enter at a time, and that by crawling on all-fours. The whole length of the wall at first was probably a mile, breast high on the inside, and constructed of the loose fragments of the rocks. On reaching the summit, you have a beautiful and extensive view of the country. The top presents an uneven surface, nearly flat, of an oval shape, two or three hundred yards in width, and about twice that in length.

"Many hollows are observable in the winter and spring, filled with water, and occasionally little patches of soil, where various shrubs and herbs luxuriate. On the eastern side, some distance from the top, is a little grove called the Eagle's Nest. Adjoining it, among the broken fragments, are a number of frightful caverns, called the Lion's Den, the Panther's Hole, etc.

"From the summit you may ramble down the arch in any direction for several hundred yards, without danger.

"A pathetic story is told of a couple of hounds that a year or two ago followed their owners to the top of the mountain, and in performing their gambols around the edge of the precipice, had got too far down to be able to get back. One slid immediately over, and was dashed to pieces on the rocks below, not a whole bone being left in his skin; the other held to the rock for two days, howling piteously, but at last became exhausted, fell, and shared the fate of his companion."

The fifth census of the United States, taken in 1830, gave the population of the United States as 12,866,020. Of this total, 10,575,378 were white and 2,328,642 colored, including 2,009,043 slaves. The first five cities were New York, 202,589; Baltimore, 80,620; Philadelphia, 80,462; Boston, 61,392, and New Orleans, 46,082.[10]

Since De Kalb County was non-existent in 1820, the census of 1830 is the first in which it appears. Population of the county was enumerated during October by its most versatile citizen, James McC. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree, who served, for the occasion, as Assistant to the Marshal of the District of Georgia. When the job was completed he was able to show the following:

White Free Male	4,301
White Free Female	4,087
Male Slaves	786
Female Slaves	883
Free Males of Color	8
Free Females of Color	9
Total	10,074

This total included 1 male and 1 female blind, and 1 female both deaf and dumb.[11]

It will be remembered that the jurisdiction of De Kalb County had been extended over part of the Cherokee country by Act of the Legislature in 1827. Therefore, Montgomery's totals include not only De Kalb, but the Cherokee lands as far north as the Etowah River. He described his territory thus:

"The Extent of my division which extends into the Cherokee Country agreeably to an act of the Legislature of Georgia, commencing at the Buzzard Roost on the Chattahoochee along an old indian trail which passes the Buffalow Fishes thence leaving Duk Scotts on the left hand, thence to the Missionaries on the hightower waters by the indians called Etowa until the said trail (the direction of Sally Hughes') intersects the road leading from Gates Ferry to Duk Roes the distance forty miles from thence along the said Road to Gates Ferry forty miles, thence with the meanders of the River down the same to the said Buzzard Roost on the Chattahoochee River a distance from forty to fifty miles.

J. McC. Montgomery, A^{t} to the Mar^{l}."

Unfortunately Mr. Montgomery did not record the territory by militia districts, so it is not possible to follow accurately his peregrinations over the territory. However, the names of the heads of families, and they are the only persons recorded by name, form a valuable record of just who the earliest settlers of De Kalb County were. Here they are, in alphabetical order.

Abernatha, Samuel
Adair, J. F.
Adams, Gairy
Adams, James
Adams, John
Adams, Leonissa
Adams, Martin
Adams, Nancy
Adams, Nancy
Adams, Thomas
Akels, Robert
Akens, James
Akens, Thomas J.
Akins. See also Akens
Akins, Joel
Akins, Thomas
Akridge, Samuel
Albright, William
Allbright, John
Allbright, Michael
Almand. See Aulman
Anderson, D. D.
Anderson, James
Anderson, M. L.
Anderson, Nelson
Anderson, Philip
Anderson, Robert
Anderson, Samuel J.
Anderson, William
Anderson, William
Anderson, William
Ansley. See Insly
Arendall. See Arnold
Argo, David
Argo, Nimrod
Arledge, Samuel
Arnold, Loughlin
Arnold, Randal
Atwood, Agnes
Atwood, James
Atwood, John C.
Atwood, Thomas
Aulman, Green
Austin. See also Ostin
Austin, Thomas
Austin, William
Auvery, Benjamin B.
Avery. See Auvery
Ayres, John B.

Babb, Joel
Babb, John
Babb, William, Sr.
Babb, William, Jr.
Bacus, Westly
Badgers, John B.
Baggwell, Kindred
Baggwell, William
Baily, George W.
Baily, Hugh
Baily, Zachariah
Baker, Daniel D.
Baker, Elijah
Baker, Greenberry
Baker, Isaac
Baker, J. T.
Baker, James, Jr.
Baker, Jethro
Baker, William
Baker, William C.
Baldwin, Frederick
Balenger, Peter C.
Balenger, Rebecca
Ball, Peter
Bankston, Elijah
Bankston, Sally
Barber, Samuel
Barker, George

Barnes, Ellenor
Barnes, James P.
Barnett, James
Barnett, John
Barnett, John
Barnett, William
Bass, Richard
Bass, William
Bates, Albert
Bates, Allen
Baxter, James
Baxter, Ruben
Baxter, Terza
Beasly, John
Beasly, William M.
Beaty. See Baily
Beauchamp, John
Beauchamp, Nathan
Beauchamp, Nathaniel
Beauchamp, Sabard
Beauchamp, William
Beavers, Polly
Belknap, M. P.
Bell, James
Bell, William
Berditt, Humphrey
Betterton, Levi
Betts, John W.
Betts, William
Bibby, Moses
Biffle, John
Biggers, Robert
Binion, Joab
Bird, Bettings B.
Bird, Elijah
Bird, Samuel
Birdine, Samuel
Bishop, Reuben
Black, John L.
Black, Moses
Blackstock, Ashley
Blackstock, James, Jr.
Blackstock, James, Jr.
Blackstock, James, Sr.
Blackstock, John
Blackstock, Joseph
Blackstock, Kindred
Blailock, John
Blainy, Thomas W.
Blake, John
Blanks, James
Blufort, John
Bolland, John
Bond, Richard
Bond, Richard
Bond, Vardy
Boswell, Joseph
Boswell, Richard
Bosworth, Jane
Bowen, John F.
Bowman, Peter
Boyd, Andrew
Boyle, Enoch
Boyle, William
Bradford, Thomas
Bradly, John L.
Brantly, Louis
Brawner, William T.
Breedlove, John
Brewer, James
Briant, William
Britain, Santford
Brockman, John H.
Brooks, Jacob R.
Brooks, William
Broughton, James B.
Broughton, Mary
Broughton, William
Brown, Ceely
Brown, Ellenor
Brown, Fanning
Brown, J. G. W.
Brown, James
Brown, John
Brown, Killis
Brown, Mary
Brown, Meredith
Brown, Peter
Brown, Samuel
Brown, Thomas
Brown, William L.
Browning, Andrew
Browning, Wyley
Browning, Wyly
Browning, Young
Bruce, Daniel
Bruce, James
Bruce, John
Bruce, William
Brucester, James
Buckly, Hiram
Bullard, William
Bunt, Edward
Burdett. See Berditt

Burdine. See Birdine
Burford, P. H.
Burnes, John M.
Burnett, Richard
Burns, William
Burrows, Joseph
Burton, Rebecca
Butler, Greenberry
Butler, Martha
Butler, Martin
Buys, James

Caheely, Jacob
Caisey, Robert
Caisey, Uriah
Caldwell, Whitfield
Calee, James
Calhoun, E. N.
Callihan, Edward L.
Callihan, Joshua
Callihan, William
Cambron, Allen
Cambron, Baily
Camp, Andrew
Campbell, Elias
Campbell, James
Campbell, Nicholas
Cannady, Thomas
Cannon, Polly
Carpenter, George
Carpenter, James
Carr, Benjamin
Carr, John P.
Carrol, Lucy
Carter, Elizabeth
Carter, Frances
Carter, John
Caruth, Robert
Casey. See Caisey
Cash, Briant
Cash, Henry
Cash, Howard
Cash, James
Cash, Peter
Cash, William
Casselberry, James
Casselberry, James
Casselberry, William
Cawley, Jacky Moutainvill
Cawley, Tubal C.
Cawly, Samuel
Center, John
Center, Nathaniel
Center, William
Centil, Britain
Chandler, Abram
Chandler, Stephen
Channel, Harman
Channel, Henry C.
Chapman, Benjamin
Cheattham, Nancy
Chessnutt, Polly
Chewning. See Tuning
Childers, Jesse
Childers, John A. D.
Childress. See Childers
Chiles, Daniel
Choice, Tully
Clark, William
Clarke, Lewis
Clarke, Oliver
Clay, Jesse
Clay, Ryal, Jr.
Clayton, Richard
Clayton, Ryal
Clemons, William
Cleveland, Jesse
Clifton, Aaron
Clifton, George
Clifton, Levin
Coady, William
Cobb, Lemuel
Cobb, Samuel
Cochran. See Cockram
Cockram, Elisha
Cockram, John
Cockram, Mathew
Cockram, Mitilda
Coleman, Abner
Coleman, Richard
Collier. See Colyer
Collins, James
Colyer, Meredith
Colyer, Merrel
Cone, Gardner
Cone, Gilbert
Cone, Ruben
Cone, Samuel
Conn, Penelope
Conn, Samuel, Sr.
Conn, Samuel
Conn, William
Connally, Abner
Connally, David

Connally, Dempsey J.
Cook, Thomas
Copeland, Coleston
Copeland, Elijah
Copeland, Thomas
Copeland, William
Corbitt, Jesse
Corley. See Cawley
Cornelius, William
Corrie, Alexander
Coryell, Tunison
Cotton, David
Cotton, Thomas
Coursey, Charles
Covington, John
Cowan, John
Cowey, William
Cown, William T.
Cox, J. Westly
Cox, Jesse
Cox, Mary
Cox, William B.
Cox, Willis
Craddick, John H.
Crawford, Elijah
Creel, Jordan
Crenshaw, See Krenshaw
Criswell, John
Crockett, Joseph
Crow, Abner
Crow, Austin
Crow, Dennison
Crow, Joshua
Crowley, Darcus
Cruce, William
Cudd, John
Cumins, Harman
Cupp, Henry, Jr.
Cupp, Henry, Sr.
Cupp, Michael
Cupp, Thomas
Cupp, Walner
Curton, Henry
Curton, Hily

Dabbs, John
Dabbs, John
Dabbs, Samuel
Dabney, Garland
Danger, Nathan
Daniel, John
Daniel, John M.
Davenport, Joseph
David, William H.
Davis, Butam
Davis, J. L.
Davis, Jonathan
Davis, Mary Ann
Davis, Robert F.
Davis, William
Davis, Wyley
Davisson, James H.
Deacon, John
Dean, Samuel
Debro, William
DeFoor. See Defurr
Defurr, John
Dempsey, Levi
Derrett, Andrew
Derrett, Francis
Dial, John
Diamond, James
Dickson, William
Dison, Isham
Dobbins, William
Dobbs, John
Dodgen, Larkin
Dodgen, Olomon, Jr.
Dodgen, Olomon, Sr.
Dodgen, William
Dodson, Samuel
Doherty, Elizabeth
Doherty, James
Doherty, Mason
Donahoo. See Dunnahoo
Donaldson. See Donnaldson
Donnaldson, Betsey
Donnaldson, Eli
Donnaldson, Jacob
Donnaldson, James
Donnaldson, William
Dorsey, John
Dowel, David M.
Downs, Barnett
Downs, Willy
Dozier, William
Driggers, Joel
Duncan, Elizabeth
Dunlap, Elizabeth
Dunlap, James
Dunlap, John
Dunnahoo, James
Dupree, Lewis Jarrel
Durham, Daniel
Durham, Thomas

Eades, William
Eastes, John
Eaton, John
Edward, Lemuel
Edwards, Alfred
Edwards, Alfred B.
Elam, George
Elam, William
Eli, Thomas
Ellin, Nancy
Ellington, David B.
Elliott, William
Ellis, Benjamin
Ellison, Charity
Ellison, Henry
Ellison, Jarrett
Ellison, Mary
Ellison, Robert
Elsberry, Lindsy
Embry. See Emmery
Emmery, Hiram H.
Emmery, Merrel
Eskew. See also Eskey
Eskew, William
Eskey, Richard L.
Espey, Thomas
Estes. See Eastes
Evans, James Jefferson
Evans, John
Evans, John
Evans, John
Ezzard, William

Fain, Abram
Fain, Greenbery
Fain, Jesse
Fain, Joel
Fain, William, Jr.
Fain, William, Sr.
Fannin, Benjamin
Fannin, John
Fanning, Loughlin
Farmer, Jesse
Farmer, Joel
Farr, Thomas
Farr, William H.
Farris, John
Farrow, Abner
Ferguson, Daniel
Ferrel, William
Fisher, G. S.
Flowers, John M. C.
Fones, Allven T.
Fones, Daniel
Fones, Daniel R.
Fones, J. P.
Foot, George
Foot, James
Ford, William
Forrester, Moses
Fortner, Willis
Foster, Cornelius
Foster, William P.
Fowler, Drury
Fowler, J. W.
Fowler, Ryal
Fowler, Thomas
Franklin, Daniel
Fulcher, Dillan
Fulcher, James
Fulcher, Jesse H.
Fulcher, Polly
Fuller, John
Fuller, William A.

Gaddis, John
Gaddy, Thomas
Gammon, Joshua
Gant, William
Garner, Thomas W.
Garrett, Joseph
Garrett, Thomas
Garrison, Matthias
Gassaway, John
Gates, William
Gault, Joseph
Gay, John
Gay, John, Jr.
George, J. V.
George, J. V.
George, James B.
Gilbert, Jesse
Gilbert, John
Gilbert, John M.
Gilbert, William
Gill, Samuel
Gillankey, Ann
Gillis, Kenneth
Gillum, John
Ginnings, Nelson
Givens, Robert
Glasgo, Miles
Glore, Abram
Glore, Asa

Glover, Wyley
Gober, Daniel
Gober, John
Gober, Richard
Gober, Thomas
Gober, Thomas, Jr.
Gober, Wisdom
Gober, Wyley
Goddard. See Gothard
Golden, John
Goodman, Gillum
Goodman, Gillum
Goodwin, James
Goodwin, John
Goodwin, Micajah
Goodwin, Neelly
Gordan, John
Gorham, Lazarus
Gorham, Santford
Goss, Wyley
Gothard, Henry
Goza, F. L.
Graden, Drury
Graden, John
Grant, Jzbel
Gray, Peter
Green, Austin H.
Green, Tandy
Greenlee, John R.
Greer, Gilbert D.
Gresham, Davis
Gresham, William
Griffin, Andrew
Griffin, Leonard
Griffith, William V.
Grimes, Josiah
Grimes, William
Grogan, Bartlett
Grogan, Richard
Grogan, Thomas
Guess, James
Guess, Nathaniel
Guess, Sophia
Guess, William
Gulledge, Henry
Gunn, John
Gunn, Rhadford

Hackett, Oliver
Hagin, Edward
Hairston, James B.
Hairston, L. P.
Hairston, William
Hall, Benjamin B.
Hall, George
Hall, Joseph
Hall, Whitfield
Hambrick, Briant
Hambrick, John
Hambrick, Joseph
Hamilton. See Hammelton
Hammel, James
Hammelton, Mary
Hammelton, Moses
Hammond, George
Hannah, Thomas
Hanson, James
Harden, Felix
Harden, Milly
Hardiman, Allen
Hardiman, John
Hardiman, Naman
Hardiman, William
Harlin, James
Harper, Brooks
Harris, Britain
Harris, Charles
Harris, Edward
Harris, Elizabeth
Harris, Else
Harris, Else
Harris, Hiram C.
Harris, James
Harris, Jesse
Harris, John
Harris, Moses P.
Harris, Ruben
Harris, Sterling
Harris, Thomas
Harris, Thomas D.
Harris, William
Harris, William
Harris, William
Harris, William
Harvel, Ryal
Haslett. See Hazlett
Hawkins, John
Haygood, Aaron
Hayse, James
Hazlett, William
Head, Richard
Heard, E.
Heard, George
Heard, George

Heard, Jubal C.
Heard, William
Heard, William L.
Hearn, Zabad
Hearst, Jesse
Heirs, Moses
Helterbrand, William
Henderson, Grenville
Henderson, Samuel
Hendon, Elisha L.
Hendon, Isham
Hendon, Israel
Hendon, Robason
Hendon, Thomas
Henly, James
Henry, John
Henry, Thomas
Henry, William, Jr.
Henry, William, Sr.
Herben, William
Herring, Joel
Herrin, Aaron
Herrin, Isaiah
Hewett, Alexander
Hickman, Charles C.
Hicks, Colly
Hicks, Hetty
Hicks, Willis B.
Higgins, Thomas
Hightower, Jonathan
Hightower, Stephen
Hilburn, Lemuel
Hilburn, M.
Hilderbrand. See Helterbrand
Hill, Abram
Hill, Ambrose
Hill, Nancy
Hill, Samuel B.
Hill, William M.
Hodge, William
Holbrooks, J. D.
Holbrooks, James H.
Holbrooks, John
Holcombe, David
Holcombe, Henry
Holcombe, John L.
Holcombe, Jonathan
Holcombe, Martin
Holcombe, Ruben
Holland. See Hollin
Hollin, Archibald
Hollinsworth, Aaron
Hollinsworth, Joseph
Holloway, Zachariah
Holly, James H.
Holly, John
Holly, William
Honey, John
Hooper. See Hoopper
Hoopper, James
Hoopper, John W.
Hoopper, Thomas
Hopkins, Dennis
Horn, Hugh
Hornbuckle, Richard B.
Hornsby, Leonard
Hornsby, Moses
Hornsby, Noah
Hornsby, Thomas
Hornsby, William
House, John
House, Samuel
House, Thomas
Houseworth, Abram
Houseworth, Philip
Howard, Benjamin
Howard, Edward
Hubbard, David
Hudgens, William
Hughes, Daniel
Hughes, Elijah
Hughes, Isaac
Hughey, Darkey
Hughey, Henry
Hughey, James
Hughey, John
Hughey, John
Huie, See Hughey
Hull, Richard
Hull, Whitfield
Hulsey, Jinnings
Hunt, James
Huston, George
Hutchins, Burrel
Hutchins, David
Hutchins, Furny
Hutchinson, Turner
Hutchinson, William
Hyde, William

Indsor, Henry
Ingram, Samuel
Insly, James
Insly, John

Irby, Constant
Irby, Nancy
Isham, Charles
Isham, David
Isom. See Isham
Ivy, John

Jackson, Littleton
Jackson, William
Jameson, William
Jamison, Benjamin
Jarmin, Tarsis
Jennings. See Ginnings & Jinnings
Jett, Baily
Jett, James
Jett, James A.
Jett, John
Jett, Stephen
Jettar, Dudley
Jinks, Thomas
Jinnings, Elizabeth
Jinnings, John
John, Bartlet C.
Johns, Booker
Johnson, Alexander
Johnson, Archibald
Johnson, Daniel
Johnson, Dillan
Johnson, Henry
Johnson, Isaac N.
Johnson, J. C.
Johnson, John
Johnson, Joseph, Sr.
Johnson, Josiah
Johnson, Loughlin
Johnson, Oliver
Johnson, Peter
Johnson, Thomas
Johnson, Thomas
Johnson, William
Johnson, William
Johnson, Zadock
Johnston, Levi
Jones, Edward
Jones, Henry
Jones, James
Jones, James
Jones, James, Jr.
Jones, Jerre
Jones, Jesse J.
Jones, John
Jones, John Floyd
Jones, John H.
Jones, Mary
Jones, Sarah
Jones, Wyley
Jones, Zachariah
Jolly, Joseph
Jordan, Charles
Jordan, Elisha
Jordan, James
Jordan, Jesse
Jordan, Nathan
Jordan, William H.

Kelly, John
Kembel, John
Kennan, Lewis
Kilgore, John V.
King, James
King, James, Sr.
King, John
King, John
Kirkpatrick, James
Kirkpatrick, James H.
Kirksey, Isaiah
Knash, Edward L.
Knash, Larkin
Knash, Larkin
Knash, William
Knight, Aaron
Knight, Joseph
Knight, Matthew
Kolb, Harman
Krenshaw, Nathaniel

Land, Jacob
Land, Jonah
Land, Joseph
Landers, Edward
Landers, Thomas
Lane, Jesse
Lanier, Thomas B.
Lankston, Willis
Lattimer, Charles
Lattimer, William
Lawrence, Thomas
Lea, M. M.
Leavel. See Level
Lee, Frederick
Lemmons, James
Lemmons, Robert
Lemmons, Thomas
Lemon. See Lemmons

Lester, Salathiel A.
Lester, William R.
Level, Edward
Lewis, Benjamin
Lewis, Edmond
Lewis, William
Lewis, William W.
Liggett, Thomas
Liggin, James
Ligon. See Liggin
Litteral, Richard
Little, Benjamin
Little, John
Little, Micajah
Lively, Charles
Lockaby, James
Loky, Benjamin
Loveless, Allen
Loveless, William
Lowry, James
Lowry, Samuel
Loyd, James
Lunceford, Lemuel
Luther, Jonathan
Lynch, Buly

McAlpin. See McKelpin
McCammon, John
McCanelles, Samuel W.
McCarty, Alexander
McCarty, Mary
McCord, Robert
McCoy, John
McCullins, Andrew
McCulloch, John
McCurdy, James
McDonald, John
McDonnald, John
McDonnald, Joseph
McElroy. See McKeleroy & McKleroy
McGarrity. See Magaherty
McGinnis, John
McGloughlin, Ann
McGrady. See also McGrawdy.
McGrady, Charles
McGraw, James
McGrawdy, Silas
McGriff, James
McGriff, James
McGriff, William
McKeleroy, Samuel
McKelpin, William
McKleroy, James
McKleroy, John
McLaughlin. See McGloughlin
McLean, J.
McLean, Josiah
McLeod, Charlotte
McTeer, John
McWilliams, John

Macomson. See McCammon
Maddin, Elias
Maddox, Benjamin
Maddox, George
Magaherty, Abner
Magby, Susannah
Mahaffy, Carter
Mahaffy, Thomas
Mainer, Hosea
Mainner, Alford
Malone, Robert
Malone, William
Malony, S. M.
Malony, William
Malony, William
Malony, William W.
Maner. See Mainer & Mainner
Mangram, James
Mangram, William
Mangum. See Mangram
Mann, James L.
Manning, James
Manning, John
Manning, Walter
Mariner, John
Martin, Andrew
Martin, John
Martin, Micajah
Martin, Nancy
Martin, Robert
Martin, Stephen
Martin, Westly
Martin, William
Martin, William G.
Martin, Wright
Mason, Ford
Mason, John
Mason, William
May, Analssa
Mayfield, Reuben
Mays, Stephen
Meadcalf, Henry

Meadcalf, John
Meddows, William
Melton, Daniel
Melton, Josiah
Merrett, Clarrissee
Merrett, Levi
Miles, Briant
Miles, David
Millar, Israel
Millar, James
Miller, William
Millican. See Milligan
Milligan, James
Milligan, Thomas
Milligan, William C.
Mincy, John
Mitchell, Isaac
Mitchell, Jesse
Mitchell, Lucy
Mitchell, Stephen
Mizzuhi, Dakerson
Mobly, Edward
Montgomery, J. McC.
Montgomery, Ulysses McC.
Moon, George
Moore, Ella
Moore, Jacob
Moore, Santford
Moreton, Joel
Moreton, William
Morgan, James
Morgan, Lotle
Morgan, Nathan
Morris, Burrel
Morris, Drury
Morris, Enoch
Morris, Jack
Morris, James
Morris, John
Morris, Joseph
Morris, Shadrach
Morris, William
Morris, William
Morris, William
Morris, William, Sr.
Morton. See Moreton
Mullins, John
Mullins, Ozburn
Murfy, James
Murfy, John
Murphy, Moses
Murphy, Roger

Nash. See Knash
Nelson, Alexander
Nelson, Andrew
Nelson, Andrew
Nesbitt, James
New, Jacob
New, Joel
Nichols, James
Nichols, William
Norman, H. S.
Norton, Thomas

Oliver, James
Oliver, Thomas
Olliver, William
Orr, Richard
Ostin, J. C.
Ottery, William
Owens, B. M.

Pace, Hardy
Paden, James
Paden, Panel
Padon, William
Pair, James L.
Palmer, Hastings
Paris, Hester
Paris, Samuel L.
Parker, Isaiah
Parker, John
Parker, John L.
Parmer, William
Parsons, John
Patrick, John
Patrick, William
Patterson, Jesse
Patterson, John
Paty, Elijah
Paty, John
Paty, Miles
Paty, William
Peacock, Levi
Pendly, John
Perguson, Demcy
Perguson, John
Perkerson. See Perguson
Perry, Hiram
Petty, Moses
Petty, Stephen
Petty, Thomas
Phillippo, John
Philips, Cynthia

Philips, James
Philips, Joseph
Pickens, John
Pickens, Polly
Pierce, Elijah
Pierce, J. William
Pierce, Jesse
Pierce, Polly
Pierce, William
Pitts, Ebenezer
Plaster, Benjamin
Poguge, Azzariah
Pollard, James W.
Pollard, William
Pool, Adam
Poor, Aaron
Pope, David
Pope, James
Pope, John
Pope, Micajah
Poss, Jacob
Pounds, Newman
Powel, Leamon
Powell, C.
Powers, John
Powers, Joseph
Powers, Joseph
Powers, Mary
Pruitt, Tilman
Puckett, James D.
Pugh, Susannah
Pullin, Greenvill

Quinton, Samuel
Quinton, Samuel
Quinton, William

Rades, Jacob
Ragsdale. See Wraggsdale
Rainey, John
Rainey, John
Rainey, Thomas
Rainey, William
Randal, Jackson H.
Randal, Newton
Rapshaw, John
Ray, Thomas
Redd, William
Redwine, Jacob
Reed, David
Reed, David
Reed, Davis
Reed, Isaac
Reed, John
Reed, Nancy
Reed, Nathaniel
Reed, Samuel
Reedy, William
Reeve. See Reeves
Reeves, Burges
Reeves, Demcy
Reeves, James W.
Reeves, John
Reeves, Jonathan
Reeves, Malakiah
Reeves, Michael
Reeves, William
Rhodes, Nicolas
Rich, Zilpha
Richardson, Thomas
Ridling, John
Robason, James B.
Robason, John
Robason, Wyley
Roberts, Aaron
Roberts, Aaron, Jr.
Roberts, Jesse
Roberts, Wootson
Robertson. See also Robason
Robertson, Willis
Robuck, William
Roe, John
Roe, Martha
Rogers, Andrew
Rogers, George
Rogers, William A.
Roil, John
Rounseville, Josiah
Rounseville, Robert
Rowel, John
Runnells, Edmond W.
Russell, James
Rutledge, Nancy
Rutledge, William

Sanders, David
Sanders, Dempey
Sanders, Holloway
Sanders, John
Sanders, Solomon
Sanders, William
Sansome, William
Santford, James
Sawyers, Charles

Scaife, William
Scaife. See also Sceaf
Scales, Joel
Sceaf, Lany
Sceaf, William
Scission, Dannalson
Scisson, James
Scoggin, C. D.
Scoggin, Henry
Scoggin Landers
Scoggin, Wyley
Scott, James C.
Scott, Robert
Sentell. See Centil
Sewel, Christopher
Sewel, John
Sewel, Samuel
Shaw, Haily
Shaw, James
Shaw, Joseph
Shaw, Sarah
Shaw, William
Shipp, Richard
Shumate, Berry
Shumate, Mason
Simmons, Asa C. A.
Simms, Benjamin
Simms, Jane
Simms, Thornton
Simms, William
Simpson, Abner
Simpson, Dicy
Simpson, John
Simpson, John
Simpson, Leonard
Sisson. See also Scisson
Sisson, Obadiah
Sisson, William B., Jr.
Sisson, William B., Sr.
Slaughter, Thomas W.
Slay, Nathan
Slay, Noah
Slay, William
Sloan, John
Smith, Bradley
Smith, Burrel
Smith, Daniel
Smith, Elihu
Smith, Francis
Smith, G. S.
Smith, Howard
Smith, Jacob
Smith, James
Smith, James
Smith, James
Smith, John F.
Smith, John M.
Smith, Rachel
Smith, Robert
Smith, Sarah
Smith, Simeon
Smith, Simeon
Smith, Thomas
Smith, Thomas
Smith, William
Snow, Hannah
Southerlon, William
Spencer, James
Spillars, Cairy
Spraberry, Benjamin
Spraberry, Hiram
Spraberry, James
Spraberry, John
Spraberry, Uriah
Spruel, Stephen
Spruel, William
Stancel, Elijah
Stancel, Irvin
Standiver, Young T.
Staneel, Ellenor
Starnes, Aaron
Starnes, Joel
Starnes, Titus
Steel, Isaac
Stephenson, Alexander
Stephenson, John
Stevens, Thomas
Steward, Absalom
Stewart, Joseph
Stewart, Robert
Stinson, William
Stone, Daniel
Stone, Joseph, Sr.
Strange, Edmond
Sweat, James
Sweat, Solomon
Swinny, Ellis
Swinny, Henry
Swinny, Henry
Swinny, Jesse
Swinny, Joel
Swinny, William

Talliaferro, Richard
Tally, James
Tally, William
Talton, William
Tankesly, Bennett.
Tapp, William
Tate, William
Tatum, William
Taylor, Ruthy
Taylor, Sarah
Taylor, William
Taylor, William
Terrell, Nancy
Terrell, William
Terry, John
Terry, John
Terry, Stephen
Terry, William
Thiess, Peter
Thomas, Eli
Thomas, George
Thomas, Joseph
Thomas, Lewis
Thomas, Thomas L.
Thomasson, George
Thomasson, Nelson
Thompson. See also Tompson
Thompson, James
Thompson, John
Thompson, John
Thomposn, Nancy
Thompson, William
Thurmond, Benjamin
Thurmond, David
Thurmond, Richard
Thurmond, William
Tillah, John
Tillah, Stephen
Tilly. See Tillah
Tingle, Solomon
Todd, Richard C.
Tollison, Hitson
Tollison, John
Tomlinson, George
Tomlinson, L. H.
Tomlinson, Sara
Tompson, Joseph
Towers, Amos
Towers, Isaac
Towers, Lewis
Towers, William
Towers, William
Townsend, John
Townsend, Joshua
Tremble, James
Tremble, John
Tremble, Joseph
Tremble, Moses
Trimble. See Tremble
Tuggle, Loderuk
Tumblin, Abram
Tuning, Ambrose
Turner, Elijah
Turner, James
Turner, John
Turner, John C.
Turner, Matthias
Turner, Samuel
Turner, Stephen C.
Turner, William
Twilly, Elijah
Twilly, James
Twilly, Polly

Vaden, Martha
Vann, Nancy
Varner, Charles
Vaughn, Alexander
Veal, John
Veal, Lewis D.
Veal, William
Venable, Thomas
Vinson, Susannah
Vutors, Milton

Waddle, Marget
Wade, Edward, Jr.
Wade, Edward, Sr.
Wade, Nathaniel
Wadkins, Eliza
Wadkins, Isaac
Wadkins, Nancy
Wadsworth, Walter
Wafford, James
Waits, Jerre
Waits, John
Waits, John
Waits, Jonathan
Waldraven, John
Waldrope, Jesse
Waldrope, John
Walker, Henry Tandy
Walker, John H.
Walker, John M.

Walker, Lewis E.
Walker, Robert
Walker, Samuel
Walker, Sylvanus
Wallace, Benjamin
Wallace, Jesse
Wallace, Jesse
Wallace, Peter
Wallace, Wade
Wallace, William
Waller, James B.
Walraven, Archibald
Wambel, James
Wammack, Bird
Wammack, Thomas J.
Wansly, Nathan
Ward, James
Ward, Thomas
Ward, Thomas
Ward, William
Ware, Hammelton
Ware, Robert
Warren, Jesse
Watson, James M.
Watts, Edward
Watts, George
Watwood, James
Webb, Jordan
West, William
Whatly, Stephen
Wheeler, John
White, Andrew
White, Asa
White, David
White, Elbert
White, George
White, Jacob
White, James
White, James T.
White, Jincy
White, John
White, Thomas
White, William W.
Whitfield, William T.
Whitlock, Charles
Wilbanks, Hiram
Wilbur, A. H.
Williams, Betsy
Williams, Cynthia
Williams, Harrison
Williams, Jesse
Williams, Johnston
Williams, Ludlow
Williams, Simeon
Williams, Solomon
Williams, Stephen
Williams, William
Williams, William C.
Williamson, John
Williamson, William
Williford, John
Williford, Nathan
Willis, James
Willis, Margel
Willis, William
Willkinson, Ozburn
Wilson, David
Wilson, George
Wilson, J. B.
Wilson, James
Wilson, John
Wilson, John
Wilson, John
Wilson, Richard
Wilson, Samuel
Wilson, Thomas
Wilson, William
Wilson, William
Windham, Peter
Winters, John
Winters, Leonard
Wolf, Jacob
Wolf, Lewis
Wommack. See Wammack
Wood, Elliot
Wood, Jesse
Wood, John M.
Wood, Robert
Wood, Robert
Wood, Thomas M.
Wood, William
Woodall, Elizabeth
Woodall, John
Woodall, Philip
Woodall, Thomas
Woodruff, Joseph
Wooldredge, John
Wooten, William B.
Wooton, Benjamin
Wooton, Joseph
Wooton, Thomas
Worthy, John
Worthy, Samuel
Worthy, William
Wraggsdale, Mason
Wright, Elizabeth

Wright, James M.
Wright, Ruben
Wright, William
Yancy, James
Yarbrough, Thomas
Young, Augustin[12]

The family names enumerated by census-taker Montgomery indicate conclusively that the early settlers of De Kalb County were, practically without exception, of Anglo-Saxon stock. It was nearly two decades before white citizens of other origins settled in appreciable numbers within the Atlanta area.

Aside from numerous present-day descendants of the pioneers of the eighteen-twenties, the names of many are perpetuated as street, road and place names in the De Kalb and Fulton counties of 1950. Among these designations, named either for the original settler or his immediate descendants are the following:

Designation	Location	For Family of
Abernathy Road	North Fulton County	Samuel Abernathy
Ball Mill Road	North Fulton County	Peter Ball
Biffle Road	Southeast De Kalb County	John Biffle
Browning's District	De Kalb County	Andrew Browning
Childress Drive	Southwest Fulton County	Jesse Childress
Clay Street, NE and SE	Kirkwood-Atlanta	Jesse Clay
Collier Road	Fulton County	Meredith Collier
Cone Street, NW	Atlanta	Reuben Cone
Connally Drive	East Point	David Connally
Diamond's District	De Kalb County	James Diamond
Elsberry Mountain	Paulding County	Lindsey Elsberry
Evan's District	De Kalb County	John Evans
Ezzard Street, SE	Atlanta	William Ezzard
Green's Ferry Ave. SW	Atlanta	Alston H. Green
Grogan's District	Fulton County	Thomas Grogan
Heard's Ferry Road	North Fulton County	William Heard
Henderson's Mill Road	North De Kalb County	Greenville Henderson
House Road	North Fulton County	Samuel House
Hulsey Street, N.W	Atlanta	Jennings Hulsey
Isom Road	North Fulton County	Charles Isom
Jett Street, NW	Atlanta	James A. Jett
Jett Road	North Fulton County	Stephen Jett
Johnson Road, NE	Atlanta	Daniel Johnson
Johnson Estates	Atlanta	Daniel Johnson
Kirkwood	Atlanta	James H. Kirkpatrick
Little Sreet, SE & SW	Atlanta	Benjamin Little
Mangum Street, NW & SW	Atlanta	James & Wm. Mangum
Miller Road	Southeast De Kalb County	William Miller
Montgomery Ferry Drive, NE and Montgomery Ferry Road NE	Atlanta	James McC. Montgomery
Nelson Street, SW Nelson Ferry Road	Atlanta and Decatur	John B. Nelson
Pace's Ferry Road, East and West	Fulton County	Hardy Pace
Perkerson Road	South Fulton County	Dempsey Perkerson
Plaster Avenue	Peachtree Heights	Benjamin Plaster
Poole Creek Poole Place, SW	South Fulton County and Atlanta	Adam Poole
Redwine Road, SW	West of East Point	Jacob Redwine
Sewell Road	Southwest Fulton County	John E. Sewell
Spruell Road	North Fulton County	Stephen Spruell
Stone Road	West of College Park	Joseph Stone
Sweat Road	Near Inman Yards	Solomon Sweat
Terry Street, SE	Atlanta	Stephen Terry
Thurman Street, NW	Atlanta	Benjamin F. Thurman
Tilly Mill Road	Northwest De Kalb County	Stephen Tilly
Todd Road, NE	Atlanta	Richard C. Todd
White Street, SW	Atlanta	William W. White[13]

The pioneers of the 1820's are gone. But their names now cover the land.

NOTES—CHAPTER 8

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 96-97.

[2] Samuel M. Derrick, *History of the South Carolina Railroad,* (Columbia, S. C., 1930), 48.

[3] Carey Williams, "Mudhole Started a Railroad", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Mar. 20, 1932.

[4] "Recollections of Levi Willard", *De Kalb New Era,* undated clipping; Candler, *De Kalb County,* 23; Sarge Plunkett, *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 11, 1896.

[5] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1830.

[6] Obviously in error. Correct date probably 1831.

[7] "Garrett's Necrology".

[8] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 11, 1896.

[9] Quoted in George White, *Historical Collections of Georgia,* (New York, 1854), 422-423. Hereafter cited as White, *Historical Collections.*

[10] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 97.

[11] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1830. Original, Census Bureau, Washington, D. C. Photostatic copy, bound and indexed, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett.

[12] *Ibid.* Notes by the present writer.

[13] "Garrett's Necrology". Spelling of names, where misspelled in census, corrected by present writer.

CHAPTER 9

1831

THE day of the stagecoach and canal tow boat made progress in the direction of its end during 1831 when the "West Point", second locomotive built in America, made its first trial trip on the South Carolina Railroad and the "DeWitt Clinton", the third, made a run on the Mohawk and Hudson, now a segment of the New York Central System.[1]

The year also witnessed an underscoring of the slavery issue, both in print and in blood. On January 1, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison began publication of the *Liberator,* in Boston. Later, on August 22, more than sixty white persons were massacred in Southampton County, Virginia, during a slave insurrection led by Nat Turner, himself a slave.[2] Turner, a religious fanatic, believed himself chosen of the Lord to lead his people to freedom. He was hanged for his trouble, ironically enough, at Jerusalem, Virginia. The trouble he fomented in Virginia spread terror through the states as far west as Kentucky and south and southwest to Georgia and Louisiana; but no evidences were ever discovered of a concerted movement among the slaves.[3] Even so, the incident was not soon forgotten in the South.

Before the year was out De Kalb County found itself bordered entirely on the northwest by a newly organized county, Cherokee, named for the Indian Nation which, technically at least, still held title to the ground.

An Act of the State Legislature, assented to on December 26, 1831, by Governor Wilson Lumpkin gave birth to the new county. This Act provided authority "to lay out and organize a new county, to be comprised of all the lands lying west of the Chattahoochee River and north of Carroll County line, within the limits of Georgia."[4]

The county thus created was massive. It contained some 6,900 square miles, compared to its present 429. It comprised all the Indian lands then remaining in Georgia.[5]

Even so, Cherokee was not an original county for we have already seen that by legislative act in 1828 the territory had been apportioned to the counties of Carroll, De Kalb, Gwinnett, Hall and Habersham. The Act of 1831 did however, subtract the territory from these five counties.

By the end of July following, surveyors had finished the work of laying off the land into divisions suitable to Georgia's lottery system of awarding land to new settlers. The whole of Cherokee County was laid out in four sections. The sections were divided into districts, nine miles square, and the districts into lots of forty acres, known as gold lots, and into regular land lots of one hundred sixty acres. Drawing began October 22, 1832.[6]

All of this activity however, did not conclude the frontier era for De Kalb County. The final Cherokee cession was four years in the future and their removal seven.

On September 3, 1831, the tireless patriarch of Standing Peachtree, James McC. Montgomery, was again launched upon the tide of public service. Upon that date he received official notification from Lewis Cass, Secretary of War, that he had been appointed by President Jackson an "appraiser to assess the value of the property, which may be abandoned by such of the Cherokee Indians, within the chartered limits of Georgia, as may be disposed to migrate to the country west of the Mississippi", with pay at the rate of $1,000 per year. He left home on the 5th of December to commence the business of valuation.[7]

Georgia politics during this period were in a state of transition. Influence of Calhoun's Nullification doctrine was growing and was sharply brought to the fore in the dispute between the United States and the State of Georgia upon the Cherokee Indian question. The people of Georgia were becoming more and more interested in regional vs. national politics and problems.[8]

Out of the Clarke-Troup factions grew the Union (Clarke) Party and the State Rights (Troup) Party. In 1831 the Union Party put Wilson Lumpkin up for Governor against the incumbent George R. Gilmer, a State Rights man. De Kalb County, in this election, supported the Union Party and Lumpkin with seventy-five percent of its total vote. In the neighboring counties of Campbell and Gwinnett, Lumpkin polled a bare majority, while Newton County bordering De Kalb to the southeast, capitulated to the State Rights Party and George Gilmer. Lumpkin was elected.[9]

Both of the 1831 gubernatorial candidates had an interesting and significant association, aside from their activities in the Cherokee removal question, with the future Atlanta area.

Gilmer, as previously noted, was the young lieutenant, who in 1813-1814, built and was in command of Fort Peachtree at the confluence of the Chattahoochee River and Peachtree Creek. Lumpkin's great contribution to the area was his advocacy of railroads and valued service in connection with the building of the Western & Atlantic in the early 1840s.

Wilson Lumpkin, had, in fact, participated in the first railroad survey within the state, back in 1826. During the year 1825 the legislature created a Board of Public Works to provide a system of Internal Improvement. The construction of canals, railroads and roads was in the Board's jurisdiction. Governor Troup appointed a middle aged Scotchman, Hamilton Fulton, as Chief Engineer. Fulton had spent most of his life in England but had recently been in the service of North Carolina.[10]

The Board planned two major projects, one to traverse the state from the Tennessee to the Atlantic, and the other from the Savannah to the Flint. In the summer of 1826, two surveying parties were in the field. Fulton accompanied by Lumpkin making the survey between the Tennessee and the Atlantic, traversing both the settled part of Georgia and the Cherokee Country.[11]

Governor Lumpkin later wrote: "After laborious and instrumental examination of the country from Milledgeville to Chattanooga, it was the opinion of Mr. Fulton and myself that a railroad could be located to advantage between the two points above named, but that a canal was impracticable. It is a very remarkable fact too, that the route selected by Mr. Fulton and myself, a large portion of it then in an Indian Country, and but little known to civilized men, should in its whole distance have varied so slightly from the location of our present railroads now in operation."[12] He was referring primarily to the Western & Atlantic, between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

Nothing came of this survey for some time. Lumpkin and Fulton were ahead of their time, for the canal era was then at the height of its glory. The Board was abolished in 1826, as public opinion was not yet prepared to support a railroad program.[13]

There is a possibility that the yet uncreated county of which Atlanta is the seat, was named for Hamilton Fulton. The question will be explored in a subsequent chapter. It is a fact that Atlanta was once called Marthasville, in honor of Wilson Lumpkin's daughter, Martha.

The rapidity with which railroads were being chartered and put into operation in the United States by 1831 inspired a renascent interest in them by progressive citizens of Georgia. This interest took tangible form at Eatonton, Putnam County in the fall of that year, whereat assembled a representative group of the State's captains of industry to discuss economic topics.[14]

Thomas Stocks, of Greene County, was elected president of the convention, which was attended by delegates from all parts of the State. De Kalb County was, for some reason, not represented, although the neighboring counties of Campbell, Fayette, Henry and Newton were. The names of their delegates follow: Campbell—Martin Kolb and E. B. Thompson. Fayette—Finley G. Stewart and Nathaniel Blanchard. Henry—Abner Davis, Francis M. Manson and Amassa Spencer. Newton—William D. Conyers, Charles H. Sanders and Josiah Perry.[15]

The principal question to be decided was whether canals or railroads should be recommended. Routes were reported for both, but no particular plan was recommended. Even so, the meeting was a stimulating one and its effect, coupled with the increasing success of the "iron horse" doubtless led to the spate of charters for railroads in Georgia two years hence.[16]

Two of De Kalb County's most promising young men were sent to the state legislature in 1831.

Jesse Franklin Cleveland, born in Greenville, South Carolina, October 25, 1804, was elected to the Senate and served four years, until 1834. In the following year he was elected as a Union Democrat to the United States Congress and served in the House until March 3, 1839. In the latter year he moved to Charleston, South Carolina, and engaged in the mercantile business, where he died June 22, 1841.[17]

George David Anderson, the erstwhile Decatur blacksmith, now a lawyer, was chosen to represent De Kalb in the lower branch of the Legislature, and served during 1831-1832-1833.[18]

He was the son of James Anderson, originally of Anderson District, South Carolina, and one of the first settlers of De Kalb, where he served as county surveyor from January 9, 1826, to January 10, 1834.[19] James moved to the new county of Cobb in 1833, apparently while still holding office as surveyor of De Kalb. There he made the original survey for the town of Marietta and erected the first house in the village, a log dwelling on what is now Church Street just north of St. James Episcopal Church.[20]

George D. Anderson, after service as solicitor-general of the Coweta circuit, followed his father to Cobb in 1838 and was elected state senator from that county in 1841. Subsequently he was elected by the legislature as judge of the Cherokee circuit, in which office he served from November, 1842, until his untimely death at thirty-seven in March, 1843.[21]

Jesse Cleveland had also died at the age of thirty-seven. Thus were cut off in the prime of young manhood, two of the most promising careers begun in old De Kalb. Sic Transit Gloria.

Among the twenty-four citizens empanelled as Inferior Court jurors on July 11, 1831, were several of note, two of whom are of particular interest at this point, John Hays [or Hayes] and Andrew B. Calhoun. The former, well into the sunset of life had served in the North Carolina Militia during the Revolutionary War. The latter, having but recently attained his majority and being the owner of a brand new diploma from the medical college at Charleston, South Carolina, was a new comer to Decatur where he had embarked upon what was to become a distinguished medical career.[22]

Old John Hays spent his declining years in the quiet village of Decatur and now rests in its ancient cemetery. An upright tablet at the head of his grave is inscribed:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
JOHN HAYS
A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER
BORN NOV. 2, 1751
DEPARTED THIS LIFE JUNE 17, 1839
AGED 87 YEARS, 2 MONTHS, AND
15 DAYS
N. C. MIL. REV. WAR[23]

Dr. Calhoun was Juror No. 1 in a panel composed of such De Kalb pioneers as Lochlin Johnson, Moses Murphey, Thomas Fowler, Elijah Turner, Thomas Akin, James Kirkpatrick, Joseph Stokes, Jacob H. Smith, Samuel L. Wilson, John Lemon, and John Conn.[24]

It was Decatur's loss when the young physician moved to Newnan eighteen months later, but Atlanta's ultimate gain a generation hence when his son, the eminent Dr. Abner W. Calhoun, settled in this city and founded a medical dynasty now represented by his son, Dr. F. Phinizy Calhoun, Sr., and grandson, Dr. F. Phinizy Calhoun, Jr.

The yellow magnet that drew so many adventurous citizens to the neighborhood of Dahlonega had the same effect upon Solomon Goodwin, of Anderson, South Carolina. His prospecting efforts resulted in the finding of but little gold. Instead he found what impressed him as a beautiful country. Its impress remained upon his mind after his return to South Carolina. So in 1831 he returned to Georgia and purchased two adjoining land lots, numbers 200 and 239 of the 18th (Cross Keys) District of De Kalb County.[25] Lot 239 included all land along both sides of Peachtree Road from the present Fulton-De Kalb line to Veteran's Hospital No. 48 and is the site of all of the business district of Brookhaven.

When Goodwin came, however, there was no Fulton-De Kalb line, no hospital, no business district and no Southern Railroad. Just Peachtree Road, muddy or dusty as the weather dictated. The land, being on the Peachtree ridge, was not considered first-class farm land but Goodwin made a success of his farming operations and became an influential man in his neighborhood.

Shortly after purchase of the land Solomon Goodwin built the house that stands today, for the most part in its original condition, at 3967 Peachtree Road, southeast corner of formerly Decatur, now North Druid Hills Road. The grounds are a green oasis in the midst of a business community and the old homeplace is owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Martin, the latter a granddaughter of Harris Goodwin and great-granddaughter of the pioneer, Solomon.

In the old days there was a long trough on the Peachtree Road side of the dwelling which was kept full of water from the nearby well so that all wayfarers could refresh their live stock. Afterward, the travelers, in the leisurely fashion of the day, would sit for a while upon the wide porch and discuss politics, crops and the weather with their host. Mindful of his standing orders, "Old Mitch," the white-headed house servant, would soon appear with the requisite number of brandy toddies to lubricate the discussion.[26]

The house originally had a kitchen and dining room built separately from the main structure and some fifty feet to the rear, connected by a covered passageway. This was necessary to keep the house from becoming unbearbly hot, since cooking was done over an open fireplace. This rear appurtenance was torn down when the Southern Railway (then Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line) was built[27] (in the early 1870s).

Solomon Goodwin departed this life in January, 1850, and lies at rest under a massive granite box-tomb in the Nancy Creek Church Cemetery. He was a widower and left five children, three sons, Starling, Solomon, Jr., and Harris Goodwin, and two daughters, Sarah E., wife of Hezekiah Cheshire and Isabella A., wife of George W. Evans.[28]

Harris Goodwin (1811-1892), the youngest son, inherited the homeplace. His two sons, Augustine and Charles, gave their lives, for the Confederacy, the former at Second Manassas and the latter in the Seven Days battle in front of Richmond. Harris Goodwin remained a useful and substantial citizen of Cross Keys District until his death, but left no sons to inherit his name. It was he who established the family cemetery just south of the old house. Here rest many of the Goodwins and their kin, undisturbed by the rumble of trains upon the one side and the screech of automobiles upon the other.[29]

For many years after what is now the Charlotte Division of the Southern Railway was built and in the heyday of local passenger service, "Goodwin's" was a scheduled stop. It is so designated in the old time tables and lists of stations as being eleven miles from Atlanta.[30]

It has been noted that Solomon Goodwin's daughter Sarah was the wife of Hezekiah Cheshire. Captain Cheshire (1786-1870) was another pioneer of the Atlanta area and left a large progeny. He was born in St. Mary's County, Maryland, and during the War of 1812 raised a company of cavalry, which served as a part of Colonel Milton's South Carolina regiment. His marriage to Sarah Goodwin took place in 1836, at which time he was a widower twenty-eight years her senior, but by whom he had nine children.[31]

The couple settled in Blackhall District of then De Kalb, now Fulton County in 1838. Here they lived until Captain Cheshire built a house at what is now 1186 North Highland Avenue NE, about 1850. It was destroyed by fire during the War Between the States and was replaced by the present structure in 1866. Until they died a few years ago, the late Misses Mattie and Sallie Cheshire, daughters of the pioneer lived in the old homeplace.[32]

Captain Cheshire is buried in the old Benjamin Plaster family cemetery atop a small hill at the northeast corner of the Southern Railway and Peachtree Creek. None of the graves in this ancient cemetery bear inscribed markers, but the name is perpetuated by the Captain's descendants and by Cheshire Bridge Road nearby, which is named for him.[33]

Levi Willard records[34] that in June, 1831, a few friends met at the Decatur Academy and organized a Sunday School. It was a union school for all who would attend, both from the village and the adjoining country. Its influence was felt far beyond De Kalb County, for many who had been connected with the school moved to newer settlements, in the Cherokee country and elsewhere, and having been exposed to its beneficial influence, were encouraged to establish and participate in Sunday Schools in their new homes.

Up to 1831 two post offices, Standing Peachtree and Decatur, had sufficed for the written communications of the people of De Kalb County. During this year however, a need was felt for additional postal facilities. Consequently two new post offices were established, both in November.

The first, opened November 4, was called Clear Creek, with Ulysses McC. Montgomery, a son of James McC., as Postmaster. He served until July 27, 1833, when he was succeeded by Meredith Collier. Meredith was in turn succeeded by his son, Aaron, on October 26, 1838, who functioned until February 12, 1839, when the office was discontinued.[35]

It is the opinion of the writer that this post office was located on Meredith Collier's plantation, either in land lot 103 or 104, of the 17th District of then De Kalb, now Fulton County, the undeveloped part of which is to this day known, unofficially, as Collier's Woods. Clear Creek still pursues its circuitous course through Piedmont Park, the Ansley Park Golf Club grounds and thence through lots 104 and 103 to Peachtree Creek, which it enters a few feet north of the Seaboard Railroad right of way in lot No. 103. It is entirely possible that one of Atlanta's newest subdivisions, Sherwood Forest, once held within its boundaries, the ancient post office of Clear Creek.

The other 1831 post office was established November 18 at Poolesville, the Adam Poole settlement in what is now south Fulton County and the site of Blair Village. Postmasters serving this office until its temporary discontinuance on August 2, 1837, were Ephraiam M. Poole, Thomas M. Poole and Jacob T. Cain, in that order. The two Pooles were sons of Adam Poole. The office was reestablished March 13, 1840, and was served successively by James Caldwell, John Thrasher and Leonard H. Tomlinson until April 5, 1847, when it was moved over into the adjoining county of Fayette and renamed Rough and Ready.[36]

Rough and Ready was a new town located on the recently completed Macon & Western (now Central of Georgia) Railroad in that part of Fayette County included in Clayton County when the latter was created in 1858. The locality and railroad station subsequently became known as Mountain View and are situated between Hapeville and Forest Park. The name Rough and Ready was doubtless inspired by General Zachary Taylor's sobriquet, acquired during the recently concluded Mexican War.[37]

Old Poolesville was once an important way station for travelers enroute from Macon and South Georgia to the Cherokee country and beyond.[38]

NOTES—CHAPTER 9

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 98

[2] *Ibid.,* 97-98.

[3] James Grant Wilson and John Fiske, ed., *Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography* (6 vols., New York, 1888), VI, 187.

[4] *Ga. Laws,* 1831, p. 74.

[5] Martin, *Cherokee County,* 14.

[6] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 210.

[7] Anderson, "Montgomery", *loc. cit.,* 30-31.

[8] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 124-126.

[9] *Ibid.*

[10] James Walter Mason, "Hamilton Fulton". Quoted in Cooper, *Fulton County,* 85-88.

[11] *Ibid.,* 87.

[12] *Ibid.*

[13] *Ibid.,* 88.

[14] Lucian Lamar Knight, *A Standard History of Georgia and Georgians* (6 vols. Chicago, 1917), II, 647. Hereafter cited as Knight, *Georgia and Georgians.*

[15] *Ibid.,* 648; Name correction, Martin Cobb to Martin Kolb, by the present writer.

[16] Knight, *Georgia and Georgians,* II, 647-648.

[17] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, p. 440; *Biographical Directory American Congress,* 823.

[18] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321.

[19] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[20] Temple, *Cobb County,* 50, 84-87.

[21] *Ibid.,* 50.

[22] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1831; "Garrett's Necrology".

[23] "Garrett's Necrology".

[24] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1831.

[25] J. H. Abercrombie, "House Indians Helped to Build". *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* June 9, 1929. Will of Soloman Goodwin, Sr., Will Book A, De Kalb County.

[26] Abercrombie, "House Indians Helped to Build", *loc. cit.*

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] "Garrett's Necrology"; Will of Soloman Goodwin, Sr.

[29] "Garrett's Necrology".

[30] *Cf.* Sholes' *Georgia State Gazetteer,* 1879-1880, p. 31; Richmond and Danville R.R., Time Table No. 12, June 16, 1889, (Collection of Franklin M. Garrett); Maloney's *Atlanta City Directory,* 1902, p. 119.

[31] Leita Thompson, "House Where Time Stands Still", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 24, 1932. Information furnished to the present writer on Nov. 13, 1930 by Miss Carrie Cheshire, granddaughter of Hezekiah, at her home on Cheshire Bridge Road.

[32] Thompson, "House Where Time Stands Still", *loc. cit.*

[33] Statement, Miss Carrie Cheshire. Cemetery visited by present writer on Nov. 17, 1932, and upon subsequent occasions.

[34] Published in *De Kalb New Era,* Mar. 3, 1921.

[35] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] Eugene M. Mitchell, "Queer Place Names in Old Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* V (Apr. 1931), 23.

[38] Statement of James Walter Mason, Atlanta.

CHAPTER 10

1832

WHILE the State of Illinois was experiencing the episode of Indian trouble known as the Black Hawk War in 1832, and thereby providing a military record for a young citizen of New Salem known as Abraham Lincoln, the State of Georgia continued to wrestle with its Cherokee problem.

In September, 1831, Samuel A. Worcester, a missionary to the Cherokees, was tried before a court at Lawrenceville and sentenced to four years hard labor in the penitentiary at Milledgeville. His offense was failing to obey the Georgia law which compelled the abandonment of his work in the Cherokee Nation by removal therefrom, unless he would take an oath of allegiance to the State of Georgia. He refused to take the oath and appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States.[1]

The appeal resulted in the celebrated case of Worcester vs. Georgia.[2] When the case came on for hearing before the Supreme Court, no one answered for the State of Georgia. However William Wirt and John Sergeant appeared for the missionary and made extended and powerful arguments.[3]

Chief Justice John Marshall's opinion, delivered March 3, 1832, is one of the noblest he ever wrote and was based upon the most extended and exhaustive historical analysis Marshall ever made in any judicial utterance, except that on the law of treason during the trial of Aaron Burr.[4] Gist of the decision was to the effect that Georgia's statutes with regard to the Cherokees were unconstitutional and jurisdiction of the Federal Government over the Cherokee Nation was exclusive.

Marshall went on to say, "The Cherokee Acts of the Georgia Legislature are repugnant to the constitution, laws and treaties of the United States. They interfere forcibly with the relations established between the United States and the Cherokee Nation. This controlling fact the laws of Georgia ignore. They violently disrupt the relations between the Indians and the United States; they are equally antagonistic to acts of Congress based upon these treaties. Moreover, the forcible seizure and abduction of Worcester, who was residing in the nation with its permission and by authority of the President of the United States, is also a violation of the acts which authorize the chief magistrate to exercise this authority."[5]

The Cherokee Nation naturally was jubilant over the decision in Worcester vs. Georgia. Congress was intensely excited by it; President Jackson agitated and belligerent; Georgia was enraged. The state scoffed at Marshall's opinion, flouted the mandate of the Supreme Court. Governor Lumpkin cried "usurpation!" and declared he would meet it "with the spirit of determined resistance." Jackson defied the Chief Justice and is reported to have said, "John Marshall has made his decision:—now let him enforce it!" The highest court in the land found itself powerless; the judgment in Worcester vs. Georgia came to nothing; the mandate was never obeyed, never heeded.[6]

The State of Georgia took positive action at the first session of its Legislature following the decision of the Worcester case. Acts were passed to strengthen the lottery, drawing having begun in October, 1832, for distribution of Cherokee lands, and to organize further the whole Cherokee territory.[7] Having demonstrated the power of the State and the impotence of the highest court of the Nation, Governor Lumpkin, one year after the decision, pardoned Worcester, but not without protests from many people.[8]

The legislative act approved December 3, 1832, provided for the division of Cherokee County, as constituted in the previous year, into ten counties: Cherokee, Cass (now Bartow) Cobb, Floyd, Forsyth, Gilmer, Lumpkin, Murray, Paulding, and Union. Later divisions of these ten counties formed in 1832 have increased the number of counties made from the original Cherokee to twenty-two and parts of two others. The same legislature, on December 24, added to Campbell County, a small tract which had evidently been left over in the lower part of the original Cherokee.[9]

De Kalb was soon to have a new, permanently organized neighbor just across the Chattahoochee to the northwest, permanent at least until creation of the intervening county of Fulton in 1853. The new neighboring county was named Cobb in honor of Judge Thomas Willis Cobb, congressman, senator and judge of the Ocmulgee circuit of the superior court, and who died at his home in Greensboro, Georgia, February 1, 1830, nearly three years before the honor was confered upon him.[10]

With the parcelling out of the land by lottery, Cobb's early settlers began to come in the latter part of 1832. By early 1833 they were arriving in a steady stream. From their villages within the confines of the new county, Sweet Water Town, on Sweetwater Creek, Kennesau Town, five miles north of Marietta, and Buffalo Fish Town[11] southeast of Marietta, as well as from scattered small settlements, the Cherokees watched the white men arrive to take possession of the land which had been theirs from time out of mind.[12]

The capital of the new county, Marietta, was surveyed in 1833, as previously noted, by James Anderson, the surveyor of De Kalb County. The site was chosen by the justices of the Inferior Court because the location appeared to be a healthy one with the twin attractions of elevation and convenient springs.[13]

The Legislature, by Act of December 19, 1834, made permanent the site of public buildings at the village of Marietta and designated George W. Winters, Leonard Simpson, James Anderson, George W. Cupp and Lemma Kirtley as first commissioners of the town.[14]

The initial Superior Court for Cobb County was held September 17, 1833, with Judge John W. Hooper, first judge of the Cherokee Circuit, presiding. The grand jury drawn for this term of the court was composed of the following pioneer citizens:

Jacob R. Brooks
George Baber
Simpson Dyer
James Berry
Ferdinand Jett
William B. Malone
Sidney F. Fouche
John W. Lowery
John Moore
James L. Davis
William Pursell
John Pace
William Harris
Daniel May
John Clay
John James
Samuel Hannon
David Kennedy
James Power[15]

Some of these jurors, including Jacob R. Brooks and James Power, had recently resided in De Kalb County.[16]

On January 9, 1832, John Brown succeeded Isaac N. Johnson as sheriff of De Kalb. Charles Murphey moved up to the clerkship of the superior court, succeeding Daniel Stone. Elzy B. Reynolds took over as clerk of the Inferior Court and Joel Morton became coroner. James Anderson, soon to move to Marietta, continued as county surveyor.[17]

James Power, a comparatively new citizen of De Kalb, was in mid 1832, one of its busiest. He established a ferry across the Chattahoochee River[18] and, on May 16 assumed the dual official positions of Justice of the Inferior Court and Justice of the Peace of the 722nd (Buckhead) Militia District.[19] He resigned both offices in January, 1833,[20] when he moved across the river to Cobb, where as previously noted, he was a member of that county's first grand jury. Mr. Power was born in South Carolina in 1790 and arrived in De Kalb in 1831 or early 1832. His wife was Samantha Hopkins, of Gwinnett County. The ferry crossed the river where a steel bridge with wood floor now carries Power's Ferry Road over the stream. James Power lived to see his ferry become an important means of crossing the river by units of Sherman's army during the summer of 1864. His Cobb County home, standing until about ten years ago, was situated on the first rise west of the river on the north side of Power's Ferry Road. The old gentleman died in 1870 and is buried in Sardis Baptist Church Cemetery, a stone's throw from the ruins of the ancient paper mill on Soap Creek in Cobb County.[21]

Road building, after a two year hiatus, again came to the fore in the summer of 1832. On July 9 the Inferior Court "ordered that Hardy Pace, Archibald Holland, Henry Wolfe, Benjamin Plaster and Charles Martin be appointed commissioners to view and mark out a route for a road from the settlement of Hardy Pace on Nance's (*sic*) Creek to John A. D. Childress on the Sand Town road, and if you think said road to be a public utility report same to this court."[22]

John A. D. Childress probably lived at or near the present intersection of Cascade Road and Childress Drive.

Hardy Pace, a native of either Anson or Rowan County, North Carolina, came to De Kalb during the 1820's from Putnam County, Georgia.[23] Here he established a home on the north side of what is now West Pace's Ferry Road between Northside Drive and Randall Mill Road whereon is presently situated the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rembert Marshall.[24]

Shortly before 1840 Hardy moved across the Chattahoochee into Cobb County and founded the settlement now known as Vinings. It is reasonably certain that his famous ferry had been in operation since the early 1830's,[25] although it was not until August 21, 1843, that Jonathan W. Hill deeded to Hardy Pace, Land Lot No. 235 and 177 acres of Land Lot No. 216 of the 17th District of then De Kalb, now Fulton County.[26] This purchase gave Pace control of the De Kalb side of the river, the landing being in Lot No. 235. It was located about fifty feet upstream from the present Pace's Ferry bridge.[27]

In his late years, after Atlanta had been established, Mr. Pace operated a tavern at Vinings for the accommodation of drovers traveling between Marietta and Atlanta, it being the custom in those days for cattle and hogs to be driven to market over the road in herds.[28]

Hardy Pace, like his upstream neighbor James Power, lived to see his ferry swarming with Federal troops enroute to Atlanta in 1864, although he did not survive the year. A substantial box tomb in the Pace family cemetery atop the small mountain just north of the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad at Vinings bears the following expertly cut inscription:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
HARDY PACE
BORN 1785
DIED DEC. 5TH 1864

A friend of the Poor

He is gone to secure the riches
of Heaven

They need not the moon
in that land of delight
They need not the pale
pale star
The Sun he is bright
by day and by night
Where the souls of the blessed are[29]

Could this old pioneer absent himself briefly from "securing the riches of Heaven" and traverse today the road to which he gave his name his amazement would doubtless exceed all bounds. The log- and weather-boarded houses of his time have given way to architectural and landscaping triumphs known the country over. His name has almost become a synonym, in the Atlanta area, for fine homes and gardens.

Hardy Pace died a widower of twenty-two years standing but survived by several children. Among them were a son, Solomon K. Pace, and two daughters, Parthenia, wife of Thomas M. Kirkpatrick a son of the founder of Kirkwood, and Catron G., wife of Pinkney H. Randall. Randall (1814-1887) was the proprietor of Randall's Mill on Nancy Creek and the citizen for whom Randall Mill Road takes its name. He was also the grandfather of the late Randall brothers, founders, in 1885, of the well known coal, lumber and building materials business in Atlanta.[30] The present head of the firm, Luther H. Randall, recently built a beautiful home, quite appropriately located on the road named for his great-great-grandfather Pace and nearly opposite the road bearing the name of his great-grandfather Randall.

The opening of Power's Ferry Road was ordered by the Inferior Court on July 23, 1832, in the following language: "Ordered that a road be opened and kept as a public road commencing at Power's Ferry on the Chattahoochee River and intersecting the road leading from Lawrenceville at Robinson's as has been marked out by James Power, Samuel Henderson and William Worthy."[31]

While the writer is unable to identify "Robinsons", he is of the opinion that the "road leading from Lawrenceville" is the present Mount Vernon Highway. The Power's Ferry Road and Mount Vernon Highway intersect at the Cross Roads Baptist Church in Land Lot No. 174 of the 17th (Oak Grove) District of formerly De Kalb, now Fulton County.

The southeastern part of De Kalb received some attention in November. On the 5th, Lodowick Tuggle, John McGinnis and James Hunt reported to the Inferior Court, as follows:

"We find that the new contemplated road (from Decatur to Swinney's) is the nearest and best, that is to say the Covington road from Decatur to the extreme corner of Captain Stephen Mays' plantation, thence leaving the same taking to the right along the road to James Hunt's plantation, thence to the left to the summit of the small hill in sight of Minty Fowler's plantation there entering the old road as before. Ordered established as a public road."[32]

This road, located partly in Evans and mostly in Panthersville District, could well be the present Wesley Chapel Road running south from the Covington Road to Wesley Chapel. It skirts the old Minty Fowler plantation which was composed of Land Lots number 131, 132 and 157 in the 15th Land District and lying along Shoal Creek.[33]

The Legislature, by Act of December 22, 1832, provided that James Anderson, James Lemon, Robert Jones, Thomas Stevens, and Jonathan B. Wilson be constituted a body corporate under the title of "Commissioners of the Decatur Burial Ground" with authority to fill vacancies in their own body.[34]

The old Decatur cemetery had, of course, been opened prior to this act. It has been noted that Dr. Ormond L. Morgan, a young physician of Decatur, who died in 1826, was buried there. However, a careful check of all monumental inscriptions in the cemetery, by the writer, in December, 1930, revealed the two oldest inscribed death dates, as follows:

IN
MEMORY OF
ANN REYNOLDS
CONSORT OF
FRANCIS REYNOLDS
BORN APRIL 28TH
1750 & DIED FE^{B}, 16
1827

IN MEMORY
OF
DAVID YOUNG
ATTY AT LAW
BORN JUNE 22ND, 1802
AND DIED
SEPT. 8TH, 1828

The widow of David Young, nee Mary Ann Tomlinson, after a year of widowhood, became the first wife of Dr. Joseph Thompson, her friend and former admirer, then a resident of Decatur, later of Atlanta. As such she became the mother of several future well-known Atlantans. Among them were Mary Jane, Mrs. Richard Peters; George Harvey Thompson, first captain of the Gate City Guard of Atlanta, 1860-63; Julia Caroline, Mrs. William Priestley Orme; Joseph Thompson, Jr.; and Joan, Mrs. Thomas M. Clarke. She died at the birth of her last child, a son, April 23, 1849.[35]

A runner-up to the Decatur cemetery in age is the Adam Poole family cemetery at old Poolesville, previously referred to. The marker of greatest antiquity here is:

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
JESSE SCAIFE
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
ON THE 20TH OF OCTOBER
A. D. 1827
AGED 32 YEARS & 28 DAYS[36]

It would be more accurate to say that this and other markers *were* in the Poole cemetery ten years ago. Since then it has been completely vandalized.

Ancient as are the two cemeteries just discussed, there is one other in De Kalb containing an 1827 death date inscription. It is in the Hulsey family burying ground on the north bank of South River in Land Lot No. 48 of the 16th District. The inscription reads:

IN
MEMORY OF
REBECCA HULSEY
WIFE OF JINNENS HULSEY
WHO DIED AUG. 31st, 1827
AGED 39 YEARS[37]

Of course it is impossible to determine with absolute accuracy the exact age of a cemetery by its inscribed markers. Most of the pioneers who died in the 1820's and 1830's rest in peace without benefit of any markers, or at best, rough field stones.

Certainly the cemeteries at Macedonia, Utoy and Mount Gilead churches and the Nelson and Montgomery family burying grounds are on a par, in so far as age is concerned, with the Decatur, Poole and Hulsey cemeteries. Yet they do not contain inscribed markers of quite the antiquity just quoted.[38]

Corporate industry in De Kalb County, thrust its first tender shoot above ground in 1832 when the Legislature of that year passed "An Act to incorporate a Cotton Manufacturing Company at the Flat Shoals on South River, in the county of De Kalb."[39]

This act provided, among numerous provisions, that the capital stock shall be thirty thousand dollars, divided into shares of fifty dollars each; that a book of subscriptions shall be opened under the superintendence of Thomas Stephens, Jesse F. Cleveland, Stephen Mays, James Morris and James Jones, who were constituted commissioners for the purpose; that all those persons who shall become subscribers to the said company are hereby created and constituted a body politic, by the name and style of "De Kalb Manufacturing Company"; that there shall be five directors, the election for whom shall be held in the town of Decatur, De Kalb County, and that the Corporation shall exist until February 1, 1850.

The Act was assented to on December 24, 1832, by Governor Wilson Lumpkin.[40]

No evidence has come to the attention of the writer that the "De Kalb Manufacturing Company" became an operating reality. However the location specified in the Act "at the Flat Shoals on South River", did, many years later, become the site of a town called Panola and of the Oglethorpe Manufacturing Company and Panola Factory. Chief items of manufacture were ropes and warps. Robert M. Clarke was head of both companies.[41] Flat Shoals Road now crosses South River at the old factory location on a modern concrete bridge. While the factory site is remote from railroad facilities it did have the natural advantage of good water power.

The United States Post Office Department added three offices to De Kalb's modest roster of such institutions during 1832.

First was Cross Keys on March 12, with John Glenn as Postmaster. Glenn was succeeded by James W. Reeve in 1839 and he by John Y. Flowers in 1852.[42] The original location of this settlement and Post Office was on Old Cross Keys Road about one mile west of Peachtree Road where the former crosses Nancy Creek.[43] This road, now commonly called Chamblee-Dunwoody

Road, runs west from Peachtree Road at the Peachtree Golf Club. During the same year, 1832, an election precinct was established at Hasting D. Palmer's store at the Cross Keys.[44]

The settlement at old Cross Keys gradually dwindled away, after the War Between the States and was, subsequent thereto, moved to Peachtree Road at a point about halfway between the present locations of Veterans' Hospital No. 48 and Oglethorpe University. It was continued as a Post Office until 1907, when the mail was sent to Chamblee.[45]

The next 1832 Post Office for De Kalb County was Latimer's Store, established April 26. William M. Latimer, first Postmaster, was succeeded in 1835 by Charles Latimer, a brother. Charles served until January, 1845, when Rev. William H. Clarke took over. The Rev. Mr. Clark's tenure was short, for the office was discontinued in August, 1845, and moved three miles down the road and reestablished as Lythonia, now spelled Lithonia.[46]

Latimer's Store was located on the Covington Road a short distance east of Snapfinger Creek. The community is now, and has been for many years, known as Belmont.[47]

The Latimer brothers, William and Charles, were among the earliest settlers of De Kalb. They were born in Maryland and when the younger, Charles (1799-1884) was seven were brought to Warren County, Georgia, by their parents, William and Rebecca Marshall Latimer.[48]

The brothers, upon arriving in De Kalb County in the 1820's settled on the Decatur-Covington Road, ten miles east of Decatur and three miles north of Macedonia Church.[49] William, after his marriage in 1833 to Elizabeth Furlow, moved to Houston County, Georgia.[50] Charles continued to live on the Covington Road until 1845, when he purchased a 725 acre plantation on Flat Shoals Road at South River. Known as "Panola Plantation", this property was rated as one of the finest in De Kalb.[51]

The best known child of Charles and Eleanor Swift Latimer was Rebecca Ann (1835-1930). She was born at the old Covington Road home, and in 1853 married William H. Felton, a member of Congress from Georgia, 1875-1881. Mrs. Felton was noted as a writer and suffrage and temperance advocate. She held the distinction of being the first woman to hold a seat in the United States Senate, having been appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Thomas E. Watson. She occupied the seat for two days, November 21 and 22, 1922, and was succeeded by Walter F. George, the present incumbent, who was reguarly elected. During most of her married life, Mrs. Felton lived in Cartersville, Georgia, where she died at the age of 95.[52]

In her book, *Country Life in Georgia in the Days of My Youth,*[53] Mrs. Felton gives an interesting account of the stage coaches which passed Latimer's Store in the days of her early childhood:

"My father's early plantation was twenty miles from Covington, Newton County, Ga., and ten miles from Decatur, and situated on the main highway coming down from Nashville, Tenn., to Augusta. As far back as I can recollect stage coaches were actively used on this line. These coaches were ponderous affairs with a big leather boot on behind and a little bannister around the top to hold baggage. There were regular stage stands ten miles apart, where a relay of four horses were constantly stabled. About a mile away the stage driver's horn would be sounded so that the hostler would be ready with fresh horses on his arrival. They were also mail carriers. It cost ten cents a mile to travel on the stage coach and it required ten cents to send a letter."

The third Post Office acquired by De Kalb County in 1832 was called The Globe. It was established July 11 with John Rainey as Postmaster. Apparently the volume of mail passing through The Globe did not justify its continuance for the office passed out of existence March 31, 1834.[54] The writer will hazard a guess that this office was located in either Cross Keys or Browning's District. Two family heads, each named John Rainey, resided in De Kalb in 1830, one in each of the two present districts just cited.[55]

Governor Wilson Lumpkin, advocate of internal improvements in general and railroads in particular, made a prophetic statement to the Legislature in his message of 1832. He directed attention to the settlement of the northwestern section of the state and told his hearers that such settlement would call for road improvement in that quarter. He went on to say, "We may anticipate the day when Georgia will enter the list of competitors for the most splendid and magnificent works of internal improvements; when with pride we may point to her railroad, canals and turn-pikes."[56]

The Governor was not a prophet without honor in his adopted state. Railroads were soon to become a reality, both in some of the older settled parts of Georgia and in the future Atlanta area.

NOTES—CHAPTER 10

[1] *The National Cyclopedia of American Biography* (20 vols. New York, 1898-1926), I, 271 (Sketch of Samuel Austin Worcester.) Hereafter cited as *National Cyclopedia American Biography*. *Cf.* Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* 137, *passim.*

[2] Fully reported in 6 *Peters U. S. Supreme Court Reports.*

[3] Albert J. Beveridge, *The Life of John Marshall* (4 vols. in 2, Boston, 1929), IV, 548-549.

[4] *Ibid.,* 549.

[5] *Ibid.,* 550.

[6] *Ibid.,* 551.

[7] Acts of the General Assembly, Nov. 14, 22 and Dec. 3, 24, 1832; *Ga. Laws,* 1832, pp. 122-127.

[8] Beveridge, *John Marshall,* IV, 552.

[9] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 23.

[10] Temple, *Cobb County,* 506-507.

[11] White, *Historical Collections of Georgia,* 1854, p. 404, gives the location of these Cobb County Indian towns in the following language:

"Kenesaw (*sic*) Town was situated upon the plantation now owned by Mr. [John S.] Roberts. Kenesaw was the chief".

"Sweet Water Old Town was situated upon the plantation now owned by Israel Causey. Sweet Water was the chief".

"Buffalo Fish Town was upon the plantation now owned by Mrs. Varner".

The original name of Smyrna was Varner's Station. Therefore it would appear that these three Indian towns were located upon the approximate sites of the present towns of Kennesaw, Austell, and Smyrna, respectively.

[12] Temple, *Cobb County,* 37.

[13] *Ibid.,* 84.

[14] *Ibid.,* 84-85.

[15] White, *Historical Collections,* 403.

[16] "Garrett's Necrology".

[17] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[18] The Legislative Act authorizing the operation of Power's Ferry was not passed until 1835. *Ga. Laws,* 1835, p. 95. Apparently Power had his ferry in operation before securing official sanction.

[19] Commission Book, *loc. cit.*

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] "Garrett's Necrology".

[22] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 101.

[23] "Garrett's Necrology".

[24] The late John Thomason, then aged 92, told the present writer on Aug. 31, 1930, that the old Pace settlement, before the War Between the States, was located where Sanders McDaniel lives on Pace's Ferry Road The late Mr. McDaniel was the father of Mrs. Marshall. Mr. Thomason said he was born within five miles of where he was living (Pace's Ferry and Howell Mill Roads) when the interview took place. The land records of De Kalb County do not contain a deed into or out of Hardy Pace involving this property. It was probably destroyed in the court house fire of 1842 and not re-recorded.

[25] There is no Legislative Act of record authorizing the ferry.

[26] De Kalb County Deed Book H, 219.

[27] The old ferry road leading down to the river is still discernible at this location.

[28] John Thomason to Franklin M. Garrett, Aug. 31, 1930.

[29] "Garrett's Necrology". Cemetery visited and transcript made of all inscriptions, Jan. 1, 1931.

[30] "Garrett's Necrology".

[31] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 104.

[32] *Ibid.*, 105.

[33] Application of Mary V. Fowler, widow of Minty Fowler, for dower in lands of deceased. March term, 1846. Minutes Superior Court, De Kalb, Book B.

[34] *Ga. Laws,* 1832, p. 37.

[35] *Pioneer Citizens' History of Atlanta, 1833-1902* (Atlanta, 1902), 344-345. Hereafter cited as *Pioneer Citizens' History.*

[36] "Garrett's Necrology".

[37] Cemetery visited by present writer and inscriptions copied, Sept. 18, 1931.

[38] "Garrett's Necrology".

[39] *Ga. Laws,* 1832, p. 82.

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] Sholes' *Georgia State Gazetteer,* 1879-1880, pp. 629-630.

[42] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[43] Conclusions reached by the present writer from a study of old county maps and war maps of the 1860's.

[44] *Ga. Laws,* 1832, pp. 76-78.

[45] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] Recollections of J. B. Bond, of De Kalb County, *De Kalb New Era,* 1948.

[48] Rebecca Latimer Felton, *Country Life in Georgia In the Days of My Youth* (Atlanta, 1919), 16, 24, 25.

[49] Felton, *Country Life in Georgia,* 57.

[50] *Ibid.,* 37.

[51] *Ibid.,* 54.

[52] *Who Was Who in America, 1897-1942* (Chicago, 1943), 390. A companian volume to *Who's Who in America.*

[53] Page 57.

[54] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[55] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1830.

[56] *Ga. House Journal,* 1832, p. 21.

CHAPTER 11

1833

THE subject of State Rights, culminating a generation later in fratricidal warfare, came again to the fore in early 1833. President Jackson, in his message to Congress on January 16, asked for power to enforce the collection of customs in South Carolina. A bill conferring this power was introduced on January 21 and was characterized by State Rights men the "Force Bill." It was passed March 2 and gave the President power to suppress opposition to Federal laws in any State.[1]

While the bill was pending, John C. Calhoun, now senator from South Carolina, introduced a series of resolutions concerning the powers of the Federal Government, declaring that the theory that the people of the United States are now or ever have been united in one nation is erroneous, false in history and in reason.[2]

The smoldering embers of sectionalism in Jackson's time were to become the holocaust of Lincoln's.

One hundred years after James Edward Oglethorpe and his company settled at Savannah, Hardy Ivy and his family settled upon the future site of Atlanta. The time of his arrival in 1833 is unrecorded. The year, in fact, has never been a subject of universal accord among Atlanta historians, although this writer believes 1833 to be the correct date.[3] One fact in connection with Mr. Ivy's arrival is certain. He had no thought that the establishment of an humble home in a sparsely settled region would make his name immortal. Yet that came to pass. His distinction lay in the fact that he became the first permanent white settler to build a home on his own land in what is now the near downtown section of Atlanta. He was by no means the first to settle within the present city limits of Atlanta or in what is now Fulton County.

Hardy Ivy was born in Abbeville District, South Carolina,[4] about 1780.[5] Before moving to Georgia he married Sarah Todd, also of South Carolina and daughter of William Todd, a Revolutionary soldier.[6]

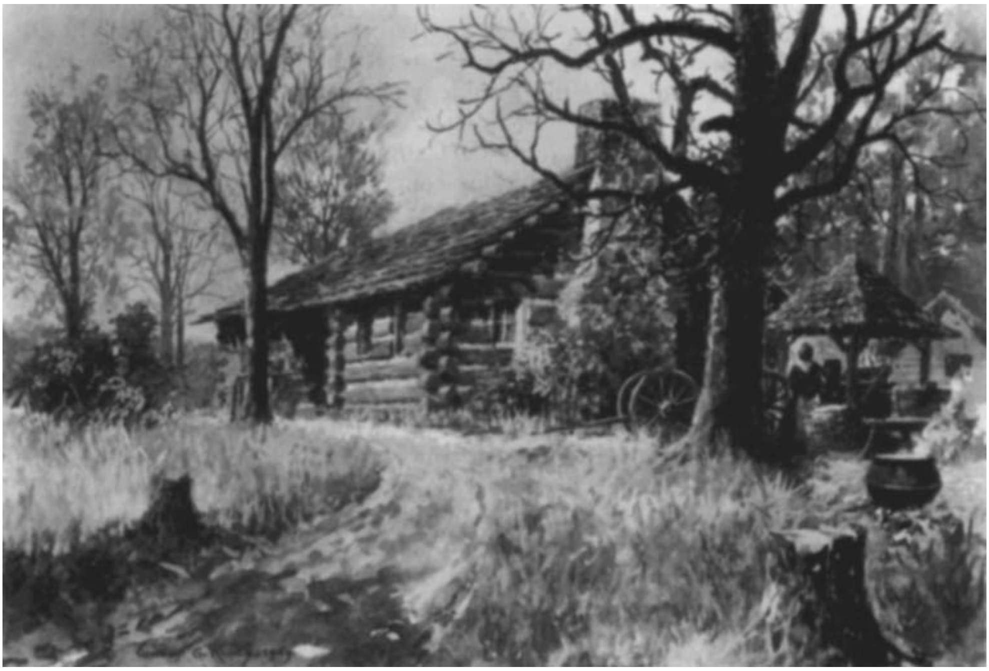
Sarah had a younger brother, Richard Copeland Todd (1792-1852), who emigrated from Chester, South Carolina, to De Kalb County in 1822 and the same year purchased, for $100, Land Lot No. 17 of the 14th District from William Zachry, a soldier in the War of 1812. Land Lot 17 is presently bounded by Adair Avenue, N.E., on the North; North Avenue, N.E., on the South; East by Barnett Street, N.E., and the western boundary of the Atlanta Baseball Corporation's property on the West. It contains some of the most valuable real estate in the city, including the vast Sears-Roebuck operation.[7]

In Richard Todd's day the entire land lot of 202½ acres comprised his farm. He built his home on high ground at what is now 816 Greenwood Avenue, N.E. The original home burned about thirty years ago and was replaced by the present two-story brick structure, still occupied by his descendants. The old pioneer himself is buried, beside his wife, Martha, who survived him 44 years, in the family cemetery a short distance to the rear of the home.[8]

The cemetery area, comprising one-fourteenth of an acre, was deeded to the city and accepted by council June 6, 1932, for conversion into a park, the city agreeing to preserve the cemetery.[9]

It could well be that Hardy and Sarah Ivy were induced to settle in De Kalb County by Richard C. Todd, or possibly they were merely attracted here by the presence of relatives. At any rate Ivy purchased a comparatively nearby tract of land to the southwest of the Todd holdings.

The price of local real estate had increased slightly between 1822 and 1833. Consequently Ivy had to agree to pay $225 in produce, as he could spare it, to James Paden for Land Lot No. 51, of the 14th District. The bond for title representing this transaction is not of record, but on January 1, 1839, Ivy, having completed his payments, secured a deed. It was signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of Reuben Cone and William Latimer, J.P.[10]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurts, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

The double-hewn log home of Hardy Ivy. Built circa 1833 on high ground in present block bounded by Courtland Street, NE., Piedmont Avenue, NE., Ellis Street, NE., and Cain Street, NE. When the block was divided into city lots in late 1840's and early 1850's it became Block 16, Lots 97, 98, 99 and 100. For many years it was known as College Hill. Clifford Street, NE. now bisects the block from south to north.

Land Lot 51 now comprises a heterogeneous mixture of Atlanta real estate, including some of its most valuable retail business property and worst slums. It is bounded: North, by a line running east and west between Baker Street, N.E., and Forrest Avenue, N.E.; South, by Edgewood Avenue; East, by Fort Street, N.E., and West by Peachtree Street.

Near the center of his then unimpressive holdings, and upon high ground, Mr. Ivy erected his pioneer home. The house has been described as "a double log cabin."[11] A double log cabin was a cabin with a wide opening through the center upon which one or two rooms on each side opened. From the best evidence available the Ivy home was in the block now bounded by Courtland Street, N.E., Piedmont Avenue, N.E., Ellis Street, N.E., and Cain Street, N.E., and in all probability was close to the northeast corner of Courtland and Ellis streets. Mrs. B. S. Ivy, in describing the location, said, "My husband's grandfather [Hardy Ivy] built him a habitation on the hill facing Ellis street . . . William Ivy [a son of Hardy] sold the lot to a committee to build the Atlanta Female College on and there was only one class to graduate from the college before the war came on."[12]

This block was long known as "College Hill," and is so indicated on old maps and plats.[13] Clifford Street, N.E., now bisects the block from south to north.

By selecting this site for his home Hardy Ivy not only secured a commanding elevation but had ready access to a stream which flowed from south to north along the approximate present course of Butler Street, N.E. The stream, long since covered, is now a trunk sewer.

Unfortunately for Hardy, he did not live long enough to see his land increase much in value. Taxes thereupon for the year 1843, following his demise, came to fifty-five cents.[14] It is certain that he saw the railroad surveyors come in 1837 and the builders thereafter. He may have seen the first train leave Marthasville over the Western and Atlantic on December 24, 1842. This, however, is doubtful, for during that month and year[15] he was thrown by a fiery horse and died of a broken neck.[16]

The exact location of Hardy Ivy's grave, like that of Moses in the land of Moab, is known only to God. Not one of Ivy's descendants, interviewed or corresponded with by the writer, could say exactly where their ancestor was buried. Four possibilities have presented themselves, namely: Decatur cemetery; Todd family cemetery; Oakland cemetery, and "near the house."

The Decatur cemetery is a remote possibility in that it was the only available public cemetery in this vicinity when Hardy died. No Ivys are known to be buried there, however.

The Todd family cemetery is a possibility because of the relationship of the two families. However, it was probably not established until Richard Todd's death in 1852.

Sarah Todd Ivy, who survived her husband until 1865, is buried in a marked grave at Oakland. On the same lot rest three of her children, all marked, but none of whom died prior to 1851. Oakland was not opened until 1850 and its records do not indicate that Hardy Ivy was ever moved there from some other burial place. There are three "unknown" graves on the lot.

"Near the house" is the most intriguing, plausible and best supported possibility. The late Edgar La Fayette Ivy, of Gwinnett County, born in Atlanta in 1858 and a grandson of Hardy, told the writer in 1937 that he had always understood that his grandfather was buried near the house; that the grave was not marked; that no cemetery developed on the site, and that the grave was never moved.

Between 1867 and 1870, John C. Peck, a pioneer Atlantan, built a home on the east side of Ivy Street between Auburn Avenue (then Wheat Street) and Houston Street. Here he lived until his death in 1908. The lot fronted 82 feet on Ivy Street and was 250 feet deep. Between the rear of the house and a carriage house on the back line was a garden plot, entered by a gate. Just inside the gate and to the right thereof was a single grave.

George Starr Peck and Mrs. Pearl Peck Shoup, both of Atlanta, and grandchildren of John C. Peck, informed the writer that, as children visiting their grandparents, they saw the grave upon numerous occasions. Family tradition was to the effect that it was the grave of an old man, identity unknown. Since the Peck home was only the equivalent of two city blocks from

Hardy Ivy's pioneer cabin, on high ground, and on land that Ivy once owned, the possibilities are interesting.

The Peck home was demolished in 1927 and the rear of the lot filled in some ten feet for a parking lot. No one recalls that the lone grave was ever removed. It could well be, therefore, that Atlanta's first citizen sleeps undisturbed beneath the parking lot just north of the Southern Bell Telephone Company's monumental office building, both properties being used for amenities of civilization unknown in Ivy's day, the automobile and the telephone.

Certain it is that neither storied urn or animated bust marks the resting place of Hardy Ivy. Yet his name is preserved in the designation of one of our principal streets. Three other downtown streets, all partly in Land Lot 51 were named for Ivy sons-in-law: Ellis, for James M. Ellis; Cain, for John J. Cain, and Baker, for Thomas Baker.[17]

Hardy Ivy died without leaving a will. His personal property was typical of that left by small farmers of his day and time. As such, and because of his distinction of first settler, the inventory forms an interesting record. It follows:

Inventory & Appraisement of the Estate of Hardy Ivy, deceased.

1	Wagon & Gear $80; 1 Gray Horse $20.00	$100.00
1	Gray Mare 50; 1 Bay Horse Mule 40	90.00
40	Stock Hogs 50; 1 Red sided Cow & calf 8.00	58.00
1	Red Cow & calf 8.00; 1 Spotted Cow & yearling 10.00	18.00
1	Red Brindle Cow & yearling 8.00; 1 Black sided cow 8.00	16.00
7	Stacks fodder 28.00; 1 Stack Oats 4.00	32.00
3	Pens of Shucks 8.00; 1 Crib of Corn, 80 Barrels 120	128.00
1	Lot of Farming tools	6.00
1	Half Bushel, 2 augers, handscrew & 2 drawing knives	3.00
1	Man's Saddle 2.00; 75 pounds tobacco 3.00	5.00
10	Bushels potatoes 2.50; 3 Bushels peas 1.50	4.00
3	Hoes, 4 axes, 2 mattocks, 1 grubing hoe, 1 shovel, 2 wedges, 1 auger, 1 box sundries	12.00
1	Flax wheel, 1.50; 1 Lot boxes, 2 guns 1.00	2.50
800	lbs. Salted pork 30.; 1 Loom 5.00	35.00
1	Lot of Tinware 2.00; 1 Lot of crockery 2.50; 1 Pine table 2.00.	6.50
1	Lot of Castings 8.00; 1 large pot 4.00; 1 lot of water vessels, 1 churn 2.00	14.00
1	Pine table .50; 1 side board & contents 3.00	3.50
9	Split bottom chairs 3.00; 1 pine chest 3.00	6.00
3	Pair Cards; 1 Spinning wheel & 1 clock reel 4.00; 1 pine chest, 1.00	5.00
1	Teaster Bedstead, Bed & furniture	25.00
1	Poplar stead, Bed & Furniture 20.00 1 do do do 20.00	40.00
1	Small Bed & stead 5.00; 1 Poplar stead & Bed 15.00	20.00
1	Bed & furniture 5.00; 2 Scythes & cradles 6.00; 1 Lot of cotton 7.00	18.00
2	Sad irons 1.00; 1 lot Books 3.00; 1 shot gun & pouch 5.00	9.00
2	Executions on Moses D. Harris for $55.04½, with a credit of $11.87½	43.17
1	Note of hand on John Burdett	15.00
	Total	$714.67

We do certify upon oath, that as far as was produced to us by the Administratrix (Mrs. Sarah Ivy, widow) the above and foregoing contains a true appraisement of the estate of Hardy Ivy deceased, to the best of our judgment & understanding this 6th Jany. 1843.

SAML. WALKER
RICHARD C. TODD
his
HENRY × POPE
mark
Appraisers.

I do certify the above appraisers were sworn to perform this duty as appraisers according to law, 6th January, 1843.

S. B. CROW, J.P.

Recorded 25th January, 1844.

E. B. REYNOLDS, C.C.O.[18]

It will be noted that Ivy owned no slaves.

Hardy Ivy left five sons, possibly more. Of these William T. and Nicholas R. moved to Mississippi about the time of the War Between the States. Samuel W. died in 1851 and is buried in Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta. Michael J. (1824-1889) became a lawyer and resided in Atlanta until his death. During his late years he boarded with Mrs. Emma Bell, founder of Atlanta's famous old Bell House, at what was then 67 North Pryor Street. His widow, Sarah Turner Ivy, became the third and last wife of Marion C. Kiser, wholesale dry goods merchant. Michael J. Ivy is entombed in the M. C. Kiser mausoleum in Oakland Cemetery.[19]

The eldest son of the pioneer, Henry P. Ivy (1818-1902),[20] and most extensive holder in Land Lot 51, married Mary Bird, January 4, 1844,[21] and built himself a home at what is now the approximate northeast corner of Pryor Street and Auburn Avenue.[22] Here his first child, Billings Socrates Ivy, was born, November 2, 1844. "Sock" Ivy, as he was generally known, is reputed to have been the first white male child born in Atlanta, which at the time of his birth, was called Marthasville.[23]

Henry P. Ivy, blacksmith and dentist, continued to live in Atlanta with his family until after the war. They did not refugee and the home at Pryor and Auburn Avenue escaped destruction. However, the postwar hustle and bustle, coupled with higher taxes for city improvements and rebuilding discouraged Henry P. Ivy. He longed for the peace and quiet of the old days. Accordingly he sold all of his Atlanta realty holdings in the spring of 1868 for $22,000 and moved to a farm at old Pinkneyville, near the present town of Norcross, living out his days as a farmer and village blacksmith.[24] Henry P. Ivy, his wife, and several of his children rest from their labors in the quiet cemetery adjoining Mt. Carmel Methodist Churchyard on Peachtree Road, one mile north of Norcross.[25]

James Paden and the heirs of Hardy Ivy sold Land Lot 51 short. Had any one of them held on to it, his descendants today would be in the position of having neither to toil nor spin.

The De Kalb County court-house had by the spring of 1833, come into need of repairs. The Inferior Court, on April 29, announced: "Seal of proposals will be received at the Clerk of the Inferior Court's office until 12 o'clock of the first Tuesday in June next for the repairing of the courthouse in De Kalb County . . . the work all to be done in a complete workmanlike manner. . . . Ordered that the clerk send a copy of the above notice to the *Georgia Telegraph* and *Federal Union* and to put up a copy of said notice at the Crossroads, Cross Keys, and John A. D. Childress and two in Decatur."[26]

On the same day the Court ordered the County Treasurer to "pay over to Charles Murphey the sum of $7.50 for the trees planted in the courthouse yard."[27] Descendants of those trees are in the courthouse yard today and add immeasurably to the appearance of Decatur's central business district.

A short time later, on July 9, the Treasurer was ordered to "pay James Paden $112., out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise apporpriated for erecting and painting the railing around the Court House."[28] The Messrs. Murphey and Paden were versatile gentlemen.

Funds on hand were further diminished the same day when the treasurer was ordered to "pay Joseph Morgan fifty cents for repairing the county seal press of De Kalb County."[29]

The absence of any jail in the Cherokee country necessitated a further drain upon the treasury of De Kalb in September, 1833. On the sixteenth the Inferior Court ordered payment "to E. N. Calhoun eleven dollars and seventy five cents for medical services rendered to one George Tooke an Indian from Murray County, lodged in jail on a charge of murder. . . ."[30]

In the same connection M. Hillburn, Jailor of De Kalb, did considerably better than Dr. Calhoun. The treasurer was ordered to pay him $94.38½ out of any unappropriated money, "on accounty (*sic*) of George Tooke, an Indian from Murray County."[31]

While the treasury was being depleted, the Decatur Post Office was making money, or at least taking it in. Receipts of Barnett F. Cleveland, Postmaster for the year 1833, came to a total of $225.34.[32]

As Hardy Ivy hacked out a clearing for his cabin home in Land Lot 51, roads were being built and streams bridged in various parts of the county. The Inferior Court passed the following order on September 16, 1833: "Ordered that Green W. Baker, David Connally, John White, Thomas Kennedy, and James Brewster, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners, to view a Rout (*sic*) for a Road, from the Campbell county line at the Rocky Ford on Utoy creek to run on the most practicable rout (*sic*) towards Macon by the way of Haynes Bridge on Flint River, and make their report to this Court, under oath of their actings and doings."[33]

Among the commissioners above appointed, was the founder of a prominent Atlanta family. David Connally (1776-1848) was born in North Carolina, a son of Thomas and Polly Price Connally, the former a recruiting officer during the Revolutionary War. David arrived in De Kalb via Huntsville, Alabama, in the early 1820's accompanied by two of his brothers, Abner (1777-1858) and Christopher C. (1792-1851). All purchased land in the southwestern part of the county in what are now East Point, Bryant's and Black Hall Districts.[34]

David and Elizabeth Christian Connally had seven children. The daughters all married pioneer citizens of that part of De Kalb later cut off into Fulton. Martha married Peter Mitchell, Mary became Mrs. Nathaniel Mangum and Elizabeth, Mrs. Henry Bankston. The eldest son, Cornelius M. (1806-1854), married Elizabeth Humber, widow of Ulysses McC. Montgomery, oldest son of Major J. McC. Montgomery, of Standing Peachtree. Thomas W. Connally (1809-1884), the third son, married Temperance Peacock, daughter of Lewis Peacock, another De Kalb pioneer.[35]

The eldest of their sixteen children was Dr. Elijah Lewis Connally, distinguished Atlanta physician and builder of the Connally Building at Whitehall and Alabama streets. Dr. Connally lived a long and useful life, 1837 to 1930. In 1874 he married Mary Virginia Brown, daughter of Governor Joseph E. Brown. Of their six children, two are living: Mary Temperance, widow of John S. Spalding, and Sally Brown, widow of Hiram Warner Martin. Those deceased are Joseph Brown Connally, who died from the effects of being gassed in World War I; Thomas W., Frances, Mrs. Hal F. Hentz and an infant daughter.[36]

A considerable number of the first two generations of this family, including David and Thomas W. Connally, are buried in the family cemetery on the old home place in Land Lot 187 in the present East Point District, Fulton County.[37]

That the Inferior Court was being pressed to authorize the building of bridges is indicated by the following order of June 4, 1833:

"Ordered that John Simpson and Naman Hardman, review the two roads, one crossing Peachtree creek at Robert Smith's and the other crossing said creek at Johnston's Mill and report to the Inferior Court on which road a bridge would be of most public utility."[38]

Apparently both were deemed to be of public utility for the Court, on July 1, authorized the building of bridges over Peachtree creek at William Johnson's Mill and at Robert Smith's.[39]

Both jobs were finished with dispatch and at very modest cost. On September 16 the County Treasurer was ordered to pay James Guess ten dollars for building a bridge and John Johnson forty dollars for doing the same[40] Judging from the disparity in cost, the bridge at William Johnston's Mill was the more elaborate of the two.

Johnston's Mill was located in Land Lot 197 of the 18th District, probably at or near the point where Briarcliff Road now crosses the north fork of Peachtree Creek. Its proprietor, William Johnston (1789-1855), is buried in the Nancy Creek Churchyard on Peachtree Road.[41]

Robert H. Smith (1802-1875) was a native of Rutherford District, North Carolina, and settled in De Kalb shortly before 1830. His ancient two-story house still stands at 2890 North Druid Hills Road and is owned and occupied by his great granddaughter, Miss Tullie Smith. The site of James Guess' ten-dollar bridge of 1833 is between the house and Buford Highway, on North Druid Hills Road, that being a new name for an old road, long known simply as the Decatur Road. Mr. Smith, together with his wife and a number of descendants, is buried in the Rock Springs Cemetery on Piedmont Road.[42]

A physician became sheriff of De Kalb County on February 15, 1833, and served as such until January 10, 1834.[43] He was Dr. Chapman Powell (1798-1870),[44] one of the county's most useful early citizens and the founder of a large and well known family.

During this early period Dr. Powell lived on the Shallowford Trail or Road near the present southwest intersection of that road, now called Clairmont, and the North Decatur Road. There he built, in 1833, while serving as sheriff, a log cabin, where white man and Cherokee Indian alike, found relief from sickness and pain. Indeed the Cherokees came to know the cabin as "Medicine House." This pioneer haven for the footsore and weary still stands, carefully preserved, in rear of the home of Lanier Billups, great grandson of Dr. Powell, at 1218 Clairmont Avenue in Decatur. A bronze tablet set in a granite boulder, located in front of the Billups home, marks the original site of "Medicine House."[45]

During the decade of the 1850's and after the death of his wife, Elizabeth Hardman, in 1850, Dr. Powell moved to Atlanta. Here he built a home at the northwest corner of Peachtree and Ellis streets (the Davison-Paxon corner) and practiced medicine until his death in May, 1870. He was laid to rest beside his wife in the old Hardman cemetery, near his former De Kalb County home.[46]

During the following year John H. James, Atlanta banker, built a palatial home on this corner, after selling his first home, on the corner of Cain Street to the State of Georgia for a Governor's mansion. This second James home, on the Powell corner, housed the Capital City Club for many years, in fact until the present clubhouse at Peachtree and Harris streets was built in 1911.

Governor Wilson Lumpkin continued, during 1833, to urge upon the legislature, his views relative to a State-owned and -constructed railroad. He designated his choice of a location for such a work in the following language:

> "If the State should at this time determine to enter upon any great work of internal improvement, it should be a central railroad through the entire state; beginning at the best emporium on our coast and proceeding from thence . . . to the base of the mountains. . . . Being once completed it would be speedily intersected by various roads from all parts of the state. . . ."[47]

The Governor had foresight. That is what happened within the next few years.

Completion of the South Carolina Railroad from Charleston to Hamburg, across the river from Augusta during the year did much to kindle the flame of railroad activity in Georgia. Certainly the people of Georgia, particularly those in Augusta and Savannah, were not disposed to sit idly by and let their neighbor state enjoy the benefits of railroad transportation without doing something about it. We have already seen that back in 1830, a group of Athens business men had begun to urge the building of a railroad from Augusta to their city.

The legislature took the cue, and in less than a week in December, 1833, granted three railroad charters.

First came The Central Railroad and Canal Company of Georgia, chartered December 20. The charter designated the corporations of Savannah, Macon and others as a body corporate with power to run a railroad or canal from Savannah to the interior of the state. (Macon was the primary objective.)[48]

The town of Augusta followed the next day, December 21, by securing a charter for the Georgia Railroad Company. Its charter gave power to construct a Rail or Turnpike Road from the City of Augusta, with branches extending to the towns of Eatonton, Madison and Athens, and to be carried beyond those places at the discretion of the company.[49] In 1835 the name of this company was changed by legislative act to the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company.[50]

Next came the Monroe Railroad Company, chartered December 23. It was given the right to construct a railroad from Macon to Forsyth, in Monroe County. That the opinions of Governor Lumpkin were bearing fruit is indicated by certain provisions in this charter, notably the one whereby the State of Georgia should have the right of connecting other railroads with the one contemplated by this act.[51]

Thus were born the Central of Georgia and Georgia Railroad systems. The Monroe Company subsequently became the Macon and Western, now an integral part of the Central of Georgia.

None of the 1833 railroad charters contemplated a line reaching a place called Atlanta. It did not exist then. Yet little more than a decade later the lines they authorized met on the site of the future city and insured, together with the Western and Atlantic, its destiny as a transportation center.

NOTES—CHAPTER 11

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 100-101.

[2] *Ibid.,* 101.

[3] Of the early histories of Atlanta, *Clarke,* 1881; *Reed,* 1889, and *Martin,* 1902, give the date of Ivy's arrival as 1836. The *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 1902, cites 1833 as the year. None adduce evidence, documentary or circumstantial. Subsequent local historians illuminate the subject no further. Mrs. B. S. Ivy, nee Lucy Pittman, relates in her reminiscences (*Atlanta Journal,* Sunday, June 20, 1909) that her husband's grandfather lived but ten years after coming to the site of Atlanta. Since Hardy Ivy died late in 1842 (his estate was appraised Jan. 6, 1843), her statement gives some validity to the 1833 arival date. Ivy's name is not included in the U. S. Census of De Kalb County for 1830, but it does appear in the De Kalb census of 1840. Tax digests for De Kalb are non-existent prior to 1842. His name first appears in an existing local public record as one of a group who had lately marked out a route for a road in1838. (Inferior Court order of Sept. 3, 1838).

[4] Statement of his grandson, Edgar L. "Son" Ivy, to the present writer, July 3, 1937.

[5] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1840, gives age as between 50 and 60. His wife, nee Sarah Todd, was born in 1780. Inscription tombstone, Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta.

[6] Information furnished to present writer by the Rev. John E. Ellis, of Havana, Florida, in a letter dated Apr. 8, 1946. Ellis is a great-grandson of Hardy and Sarah Todd Ivy.

[7] Paul Hinde, "How Ponce de Leon Springs Got Its Name", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Jan. 27, 1924; "Garrett's Necrology".

[8] "Garrett's Necrology". The death date, 1853, on Richard C. Todd's tombstone is in error. His will was probated Mar. 1, 1852.

[9] *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 22, 1940.

[10] De Kalb County Deed Book H; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 12.

[11] Reminiscences of Mrs. B. S. Ivy, *Atlanta Journal,* June 20, 1909.

[12] *Ibid*

[13] G. M. Hopkins, C.E., *City Atlas of Atlanta, Georgia, From Actual Surveys and Records* (Baltimore, 1878). Plate C. Hereafter cited as *Hopkins' Atlas.* Shortly after 1848, Land Lot 51 was divided into blocks and city lots. The block in which the Ivy home stood became "Block 16", which was divided into city lots number 97, 98, 99, and 100. During the years 1850, 51, 52, 53 most of Hardy Ivy's land was sold in units of city lots by William Ezzard, who had succeeded Sarah Ivy, the widow, as administrator. These lots, about 135 in all, were sold to various citizens of Atlanta, including Hardy's sons and daughters. It is significant that lots 97. 98, 99, and 100 remained in the family. Sarah, the widow, purchased lots 97, 99, and 100, and William Ivy, a son, purchased lot 98. (See Schedule of the Administration on Hardy Ivy's Estate, De Kalb Ordinary's Office). This schedule shows that prior to Sarah Ivy's purchase of the property in 1851 and 1852, it was rented to her during 1850. The rental schedule for that year is recorded as follows:

By Rent of House and Plantation:

By Rent of Dwelling house & lots, garden, etc., te S. Ivy	$10.00
By Rent of field east of branch to T. G. W. Crusselle	$22.00
10 acre field west of branch & brickyard field to Samuel Ivy	$35.00
10 acre field nearest to Atlanta to James Blackmon	$10.00
	$77.00

The first Atlanta city directory, published in 1859, lists Henry P. Ivy as residing on the north side of Ellis Street btween Collins (now Courtland) and Calhoun (now Piedmont Ave.), and Nicholas R. Ivy as living on the northeast corner of Ellis and Collins. Both were sons of Hardy and Sarah.

[14] Schedule of Administration, De Kalb Ordinary's Office.

[15] "Garrett's Necrology".

[16] Mrs. B. S. Ivy, *Alanta Journal,* June 20, 1909.

[17] Rev. John E. Ellis to Franklin M. Garrett, letter, Apr. 8, 1946.

[18] De Kalb County Inventory and Sales Book A, 63-70; *Cf. A.H.B.*, VI (Feb. 1932), 16-17.

[19] "Garrett's Necrology".

[20] Dates on tombstone, Mt. Carmel Methodist Churchyard, Gwinnett County near Norcross.

[21] De Kalb County Marriage Records, 1844.

[22] The location is sometimes given as "northwest corner of Pryor and Decatur streets". This corner is in Land Lot 77, outside of the Ivy holdings. Henry Ivy purchased the northeast corner of Pryor and Wheat (now Auburn Ave.), from his father's estate, June 28, 1850.

[23] *Pioneer Citizens' History*, 376.

[24] Willard Neal, "87 Cents Tax On 425 Acres". *Atlanta Journal Magazine*, Apr. 10, 1927. Being the reminiscences of Mrs. Sallie Bush, of Atlanta, daughter of Henry P. Ivy. *Cf.* Lee Rogers, "But For a Twist of Fate, They Would Have Been Atlanta's Richest", *Atlanta Constitution Magazine*, Oct. 30, 1938. Being the reminiscences of Edgar Lafayette Ivy, son of Henry P. Ivy.

[25] "Garrett's Necrology".

[26] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 114.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.*, 119.

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] *Ibid.*, 121.

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*, 211.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] "Garrett's Necrology"; Memo furnished to present writer by Mrs. John S. Spalding, of Atlanta.

[35] Memo, Mrs. Spalding.

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] "Garrett's Necrology".

[38] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 115.

[39] *Ibid.*, 116.

[40] *Ibid.*, 121.

[41] "Garrett's Necrology".

[42] *Ibid.*

[43] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[44] "Garrett's Necrology".

[45] Edith Sewell Jones, "On Shallow Ford Trail", *Atlanta Journal*, Apr. 5, 1931.

[46] "Garrett's Necrology".

[47] *Ga. House Journal*, 1833, p. 22.

[48] *Ga. Laws*, 1833, p. 256.

[49] *Ibid.*, 246.

[50] Mary G. Cumming, *Georgia Railroad & Banking Company 1833-1945* (Augusta, Ga., 1945), 48. Hereafter cited as Cumming, *Georgia Railroad.*

[51] *Ga. Laws*, 1833, p. 238.

CHAPTER 12

1834

THE State of Georgia furnished the United States with a Secretary of State in 1834. John Forsyth, late Governor (1827-29), and long an ardent supporter of Andrew Jackson, was appointed to the top cabinet position by the President on June 27 and retained it through the succeeding administration of Martin Van Buren. During the same year the opponents of Jackson adopted the name Whig, in lieu of National Republicans.[1]

Preliminary organization of the Georgia Railroad was perfected in March, 1834, when a group met in the library of James Camak's home in Athens. At this meeting the charter was accepted and officers and directors elected. The host, Mr. Camak, was designated as President and twelve directors were named.[2]

In common with all large enterprises, complications arose. Everybody, it seemed, did not want a railroad. The town of Lexington, in Oglethorpe County, objected on account of the noise and that locomotives would frighten livestock. So it was stipulated that the line could not pass within four miles of the city limits.[3] The Augusta Board of Trade stipulated that the road should terminate in Augusta and not go on to Savannah, or in any way compete with boat trade on the Savannah River.[4]

In October, 1834, the Georgia Railroad made a fortuitous contract when it secured the services of J. Edgar Thomson,[5] then in the service of the Camden and Amboy Railroad,[6] as Chief Engineer of the new enterprise. During the following year, 1835, Mr. Thomson secured the services of a young Pennsylvanian, Richard Peters, as his principal assistant.[7] The Messrs. Thomson and Peters were to have important roles in the later development of Atlanta. More about them later. Actual construction of the Georgia Railroad began early in 1835.[8]

Work on the Central Railroad of Georgia, its original chartered line being from Savannah to Macon, began in November, 1836. It was completed to Macon October 13, 1843.[9]

Meanwhile, the year 1834 had marked a decided turning point in favor of a state-owned railroad. The legislature made a thorough study of the matter and on December 29 passed a resolution as follows:

"Resolved, that the times require, and the resources of the state authorize a scheme of internal improvement from the seaboard of this state to the interior by railroad, on faith and credit of the state, and as a great state work."[10]

In support of this resolution the resources of the state were reviewed. The past measures of partial and local legislation on internal improvement had not met the needs. Private corporations had proven a disappointment because their treasuries were not of sufficient magnitude to develop so gigantic an enterprise as was needed. The movement continued to gain momentum spurring the legislature to action. Governor Lumpkin, the consistent advocate of a state railroad, became, in his message of 1834, more insistent than ever. He said:

"After the most mature consideration, I have no hesitancy in reiterating the often expressed opinion that the only great work of internal improvement which would be entitled to the support of our whole population . . . would be a central railroad; commencing on our own seaboard . . . with a view of ultimately extending the line through the interior to the northwestern boundary. . . ."[11]

It was not long before the Governor was to see his efforts bear fruit.

The Inferior Court of De Kalb County was, at this time, composed of Justices John Dabbs, Thomas Ray, Edward Jones, Moses Murphey, and Lodowick Tuggle, all of whom were commissioned January 10, 1833.[12]

On Monday, January 13, 1834, the Court met and disposed of twelve civil cases. It was a field day for plaintiffs. Defendants secured not one verdict. The jury before whom all of these cases were tried was composed of:

1. John McCulloch
2. David Wilson
3. Joseph Trimble
4. Thomas Durham
5. Daniel Johnson
6. Lewis G. Walker
7. James H. Kirkpatrick
8. Gardner Cone
9. Stephen Tilly
10. James Lowry
11. Edwin W. Johnson
12. David McDow[13]

The jail, being in need of repairs, received attention during the year. On July 7 the county treasurer was ordered to pay Loveless & Jones $3.85 for 27½ pounds of sheet iron with which to make repairs. A week later Thomas C. Bradberry was paid $4.93¾ for making the repairs and in September he was paid $8.00 for making steps to the jail.[14]

Two De Kalb County streams, heretofore unbridged insofar as any official record is concerned, received attention in 1834.

The first candidate for such attention was Mountain Creek, which rises near the base of Stone Mountain and flows in a southeasterly direction through Diamond's District into Yellow River. The Inferior Court issued the following order on March 18:

"Ordered that the Court pay $10 towards the building of a bridge across Mountain Creek where the road from Decatur to Rockbridge crosses said creek. Provided the neighborhood makes up a deficient sum of money to have said bridge built and warranted to stand 5 years."[15]

The other 1834 bridge building project is doubly interesting because the order providing therefore makes the earliest known reference to Pace's Ferry. The court order, dated May 5, reads as follows:

"Ordered that Thomas Farr, Esqr., Isaiah Kirksey, John Harris, Dennis Hopkins & William P. Foster be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to let the building of a Bridge across Nancy's Creek at or near Hopkin's Mill on the Road to Pace's Ferry on the Chattahoochie (*sic*) River."[16]

This bridge, in all probability, crossed Nancy Creek at the present site of a concrete bridge on Pace's Ferry Road, N.W., at Beechwood Road, just beyond the termination of Howell Mill Road in Land Lot No. 198 of the 17th District. The ancient course of Pace's Ferry Road can be seen nearby and some very old bridge footings are visible in the creek under the present bridge.[17]

What is now the Adamsville District of Fulton County became the candidate for a new bridge in November, 1834. On the third it was ordered "that William Fain Senior, John Patterson, Jesse Fain, Abel O. Embry & A. H. Green, be appointed commissioners to view the Road about Green's Mill, and see where the most suitable place will be to build a bridge across Utoy creek, and to make a report, etc. . . ."[18]

While several new roads were reviewed and marked out in various parts of the county during 1834, the unusual came to pass in November, when a road was abolished. This unprecedented action was taken November 3 by the following Inferior Court order:

> "It appearing to the Court, that an order . . . was passed at the July term . . . to have a road opened and cleared out as a publick (*sic*) Road from Awtry's Mill on South River to the junction of the Rock Bridge & Lawrenceville Roads, as lately marked out by John Hambrick, William Parker, Lewis Stowers, and Abraham Housworth, and it also appearing by the petition of about two hundred persons residing near where said Road is to Run, that said Road will not be of publick (*sic*) utility but on the contrary, that it will be of but little advantage to a very small portion of said citizens: It is therefore ordered that said order for said Road be abolished. . . ."[19]

The State Legislature, at its November-December, 1834, term, authorized Daniel N. Pittman of Gwinnett County to establish a ferry across the Chattahoochee River, on his own lands. The act empowered him, his heirs and assigns, to demand and receive the same rates of ferriage which had been allowed to other owners of ferries on the same river. Pittman was also made responsible for all accidents which may occur in passing said ferry on account of negligence or inability of the ferryman.[20]

Daniel N. Pittman (1793-1871) was born in Columbia County, Georgia; spent most of his life in Gwinnett and his last years in Atlanta. He was the father of Judge Daniel Pittman, Ordinary of Fulton County from 1864 to 1881.[21]

The Pittman's Ferry neighborhood, between the future towns of Norcross and Duluth came to the fore three years later when surveys were being made for the river crossing of the Western & Atlantic Railroad. Those town sites narrowly escaped becoming the future site of Atlanta.

The small settlement near the base of De Kalb's most prominent natural landmark became a Post Office on July 18, 1834, which office was designated Rock Mountain. William Cochran was first Postmaster, serving until January 13, 1835, when he was succeeded by Andrew Browning. The office was discontinued January 4, 1836, and re-established as Stone Mountain June 9, 1836, with William Meador as Postmaster. Subsequent Postmasters, to the close of the War Between the States were Andrew Johnson, 1839-1846; Drewry Lee, 1846-1847; Alexander C. Fowler, 1847-1848; George K. Smith, 1848-1849; Samuel H. Dean, 1849-1855; Thompson A. Browning, 1855-1865.[22]

It is said[23] "that there was a settlement at Stone Mountain long before there was a house built at Decatur, and that as early as 1825 a stage coach line ran from Milledgeville to Stone Mountain by way of Madison and Eatonton. Another line ran from Stone Mountain to Athens, Tennessee. Even in those days the mountain was an object of keen interest to tourists."

Be that as it may the town of New Gibraltar was incorporated under an Act of the General Assembly approved December 21, 1839, with Andrew Johnson, Isaiah Parker, Silas Pool, William Beauchamp and Drury Lee, as the first Commissioners. The incorporated limits embraced all of Land Lot 89 of the 18th District. Under an Act of the Legislature approved December 24, 1847, the name of the town was changed to Stone Mountain.[24] The name of the Post Office has remained unchanged since 1836.

NOTES—CHAPTER 12

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 101.

[2] Cumming, *Georgia Railroad,* 15-16.

[3] *Ibid.,* 16-17.

[4] *Ibid.,* 17.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography,* VI, 99.

[7] Wallace P. Reed, ed., *History of Atlanta, Georgia,* (Syracuse, N. Y., 1889), part II, 114. Hereafter cited as Reed, *Atlanta.*

[8] Janes, *Hand-Book of Georgia,* 170.

[9] *Ibid.,* 171.

[10] *Ga. Laws,* 1834, p. 289; Edens, "Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 225.

[11] *Ga. House Journal,* 1834, p. 18; Edens, "Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 225-226.

[12] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[13] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 125.

[14] *Ibid.,* 132, 134, 137.

[15] *Ibid.,* 114.

[16] *Ibid.,* 131. This bridge is of particular interest to the present writer since it crossed Nancy Creek on land presently owned by him.

[17] *Cf.* chain of title to Land Lot 198, 17th District, records Atlanta Title Co. The name of Dennis Hopkins appears in the chain.

[18] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 138.

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ga. Laws,* 1834, p. 123.

[21] "Garrett's Necrology".

[22] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[23] Knight, *Landmarks,* II, 246.

[24] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 18.

CHAPTER 13

1835

WHITEHALL STREET in Atlanta, like its opposite number, Peachtree, in the downtown section, received its name from a settlement or landmark, in existence years before Atlanta itself came into being. Whitehall, in its heyday was a tavern, stage coach stop, post office and election precinct. The chief business section of West End, at Lee and Gordon streets, is its lineal descendant.

Founder of this pioneer locality and proprietor of the "White Hall Tavern" or "White Hall House," was Charner Humphries, born November 11, 1795, in Chester District, South Carolina.[1] He was married to Mary Darby of the same District in 1818.[2]

Charner came to De Kalb County with his family in the early 1830's and settled on a tributary of South River, upon a knoll just east of the present Perkerson Road and a short distance north of where that road now enters Stewart Avenue in Land Lot 92 of the 14th District of now Fulton County.[3]

After farming at this location for a few years, Humphries obtained Land Lot No. 108 of the 14th District at a sheriff's sale on March 3, 1835, it having formerly been the property of Jesse Childress.[4] Present boundaries of this Land Lot are: North, Greensferry Avenue, S.W.; South, Glenn and Gordon streets, S.W.; East, a southern prolongation of Stewart Avenue, and West by Ashby Street, S.W.

The fact that this land lot, in 1835, was the site of an important road junction and stage coach route was not lost upon Mr. Humphries. He immediately moved up from Lot 92 and erected a tavern and small general store at the junction of the Sandtown and Newnan roads. The former is now Gordon Street; the latter Lee Street.[5] The road to Decatur and Lawrenceville branched from Sandtown Road and followed the present course of Lee Street from Gordon to Park Street and thence along Peters Street, which was the original Whitehall Road.[6]

The tavern was of frame construction—two stories in height and covered by weatherboarding. It was whitewashed or painted white, probably the former, and is said to have been the first white house in the county—hence its name.

It contained eight rooms; four downstairs and four upstairs. On each floor a generous width of hallway divided front and rear rooms from corresponding front and rear rooms, and the usual stairway and stairwell partly occupied the hall space. This made the front of the structure of greater dimensions than its depth. The front was at least sixty feet long. The roof was of the ordinary gable variety. A porch of two levels extended along the front, with columns and railings, and all front rooms—above and below—opened by doorways on the porch. At the rear of the two-story portion was a room with a shed roof, probably the dining room.

Two large chimneys graced the main structure—not at the ends, but so arranged as to permit placement of fireplaces in front and rear rooms. The kitchen, as was usual, was a separate and one-story structure in the rear yard, a short distance from the dining room.

A fence of horizontal plank enclosed the tavern yard. This was primarily for the purpose of keeping stray livestock on the outside. To obviate the nuisance of an unclosed entrance gate, this feature was non-existent; one entered the yard by way of a stile, the steps crudely but effectively formed by sawed sections of large tree trunks in ascending and descending sequence of height. Several large trees stood in the yard.

The well was next to and inside the front fence—the curb covered by the traditional roof. A watering trough was just outside the fence, so that water was easily transferred from the well bucket, which operated by the usual windlass. A horse rack extended along the roadside.

South of the house, 150 yards or so, was the stable, adjacent to and facing the Sandtown Road. The stable yard, or horse-lot, was enclosed by a rail fence which joined the plank fence on the road frontage. It was of sufficient size to accommodate many horses. Across the road from the house was Charner's store, a nondescript shed or shack in which he kept for sale the usual and general run of merchandise, including wet goods, in demand by the people of a pioneer community. A whiskey barrel was kept on tap in the rear of the store, where cash customers were entitled to drinks "on the house," but it was considered good eitquette for strangers or occasional visitors to leave a nickel or dime on the barrel head after imbibing.[7]

Reckoned by present day street locations the tavern stood on the east side of Lee Street between Gordon and Park streets. The Central of Georgia Railroad, just east, had not been constructed at the time. Charner Humphries set himself up as innkeeper, though White Hall was to become a scheduled stop in little more than a decade.

Before the advent of the railroad, however, the daily arrival of the stage coach to or from Lawrenceville, Decatur or Newnan was the big event. The tavern was a welcome stop on the route. As the four-horse teams would drive up, the driver would heave overboard the mail for "White Hall," and descend from his high seat to impart the latest news to the foregathered citizens of the community. Fresh horses were brought up from the stable to replace the tired animals. The latter, upon being unhitched, made a bee-line for the watering trough just outside the plank fence.[8]

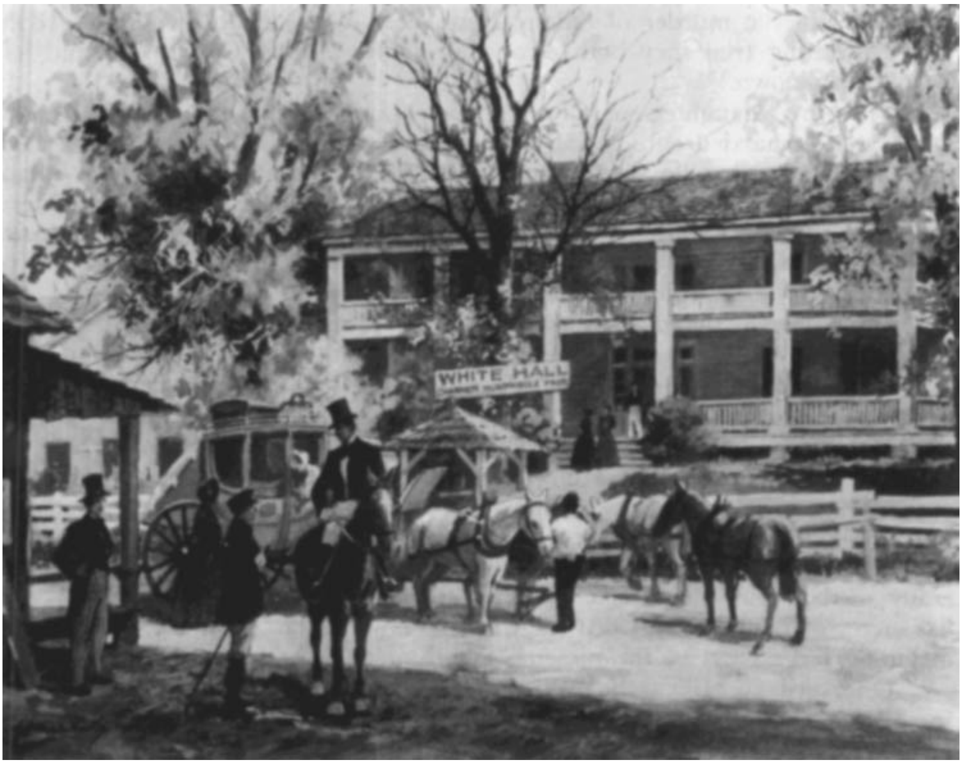
The big annual event of the year at "White Hall" was muster day, whereupon gathered the militia of the 530th Militia District, commanded at that time by Major Alexander Ratteree, an extensive and eccentric land owner of the District.

On these occasions the horse-rack in front of the tavern was crowded, for the muster ground was just to the north. The militia itself was composed of the able-bodied male citizens of the district who came, sans uniform, with their flintlock fowling pieces.

Drill in the manual of arms, lasting about two hours, was simply a prelude to more exciting events. Trials of marksmanship were held, with a prize of a yearling cow to the winner. Regardless of who won, the cow was offered up as a sacrifice to the collective appetites of the assemblage, for it was straightway slaughtered, cooked and served, together with generous helpings from Charner's whiskey barrels. Muster day was usually topped off with not a few fist and dog fights, as the latter usually accompanied their masters. At this point Major Ratteree generally found difficulty in keeping order and, in fact, at one mustering, was actually run off the place for trying.[9]

The United States Post Office Department designated White Hall as a United States Post Office, effective June 9, 1835, with Charner Humphries as Postmaster. He served as such until July 19, 1839, when he was succeeded by Samuel Lovejoy. The office was discontinued October 14, 1840.[10] That the office was not lucrative is indicated by the fact that Humphries' salary for the year 1838 amounted to $10.51, while Lovejoy's for his entire tenure came to only $4.54, with net proceeds of $8.89.[11]

The legislature recognized White Hall as a place of some importance, for by Act of December 21, 1835,[12] it established an additional election precinct in the County of De Kalb, and provided that citizens of De Kalb County



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

White Hall, Charner Humphries, Proprietor. Built circa 1835 on the Stage Road between Decatur and Newnan. Demolished during or shortly after the War Between the States. Present location would be east side of Lee Street between Gordon and Park streets, nearer Gordon. Whitehall Street, Whitehall Post Office and Whitehall Election Precinct all took their names from this tavern.

"Shall be and they are hereby authorized on all days of general and county elections to vote at the house of Charner Humphries, called and known by the name of White Hall, in the center of the 101st battalion of Georgia Militia, for electors of president and vice-president, members of Congress, members of the Legislature, and county officials."

White Hall remained an election precinct until, by Act of December 26, 1845, it was changed to the newly created town of Atlanta and moved thither.[13]

The decade of the 1850's was, to say the least, difficult for the Charner Humphries family. Mary Darby, wife of Charner, died June 26, 1851. The curtain dropped for all male members of the family in 1855. George W., a son, died March 18th. Charner himself passed from the earthly scene on

April 4th, while Charner, Jr., joined the departed caravan December 13th. All were buried in a family cemetery under a weeping willow tree to the rear, or east of the tavern, in the block now bounded by Poole Place, Lee, Park and West Whitehall streets. Here they rested until November 12, 1890, when, together with three infant daughters who had died in the 1830's, they were removed to West View Cemetery. There the graves are substantially marked.[14]

The other two sons of Charner and Mary Humphries, Asa and John, were implicated in the murder of Sidney Kent, near White Hall, on July 4, 1855. While awaiting trial they both escaped from the Fulton County jail and left for parts unknown.[15]

The three daughters of Charner and Mary Humphries who survived to maturity, all married substantial citizens of the community. Harriet married, first, Eli Cornwell, who died young in 1838. She later married Dr. William Gilbert and became the mother of Jeremiah Silas Gilbert and of four daughters. After Dr. Gilbert's death in 1864 she married George Key. Mary Humphries married Augustus A. Wilson. Elizabeth Humphries became the first wife of Dr. Joshua Gilbert, pioneer Atlanta physician and younger brother of Dr. William Gilbert. She died young in 1847 and Dr. Gilbert subsequently remarried.[16]

Charner Humphries has been described[17] as a heavy set man, of medium height, smooth face and of a type fitting the popular conception of a "Dutchman." He was, however, not of Teutonic but of English descent.

The estate of Charner Humphries was large for its day, being valued at approximately $20,000. It was appraised April 13, 1855, by T. A. Kennedy, Marat Megee, James V. White and Robert M. Clarke. The appraisement lists a considerable amount of live stock, much personal property of the type generally used in the operation of an inn, eight slaves, debts due the estate, and 987 acres of land, a great deal of which is now in the Atlanta city limits and including large parts of the present West End and Oakland City sections.[18]

On April 26, 1855, the "White Hall place" was rented to A. H. Stokes for $215, together with a field of corn and 8 or 10 acres oats for $31 extra.[19] Later in the year, on November 5, "White Hall" was sold to W. H. Harvill for $4150.[20] William Gilbert, a son-in-law, was administrator of the estate.

Just what disposition Harvill made of the old tavern is not known, although the building was not used as an inn after Charner Humphries' death. It subsequently passed into the hands of James R. D. Ozburn, a cotton buyer. During the War Between the States the building was used as headquarters for various Federal officers after the capture of Atlanta, who dated their reports "White Hall."[21]

The ultimate fate of the building is a matter about which two reliable sources differ. Jeremiah Gilbert said that it survived the war and was torn down piece by piece in the late 1860's and sold for second-hand lumber.[22] There is a long-standing and persistent rumor that some of the timbers were used in a house still standing at 830 Oak Street, S.W.

Mrs. Julia Ozburn Goodrum, daughter of James R. D. Ozburn, one-time owner of the building, has the following to say: "It [the building] was not taken down, but was burned during the war. When Sherman advanced toward Atlanta, her father came home from the army to move his wife and children from their home in Atlanta to the old White Hall Inn for safety. At that time only the first floor was tenable. As Sherman came nearer, the family was forced to flee, and refugeed to Pike County. Upon returning at the close of the war, they found it burned to the ground. Whether Sherman's army or scalawags had set it afire, her mother never knew, but she told her daughter that it had been burned."[23]

Whatever the mode of its destruction, old White Hall Tavern is but a faded and indistinct memory. Yet it bequeathed a name as intimately associated with Atlanta through the years as did the still more ancient community of Standing Peach Tree to the north.

Sometime prior to 1850 and after 1835 the 530th Militia District became known as Black Hall District, the name it still bears, though the district is much smaller than originally owing to the continued growth of Atlanta. The writer has never been able to trace satisfactorily the origin of the name Black Hall. However, it was unique, to say the least, that White Hall should have been located in Black Hall District. Perhaps the district name was inspired by some long forgotten wag with a flair for contrasts.

De Kalb County entrusted its State Senate seat to Stephen Mays in 1835,[24] and sent James Diamond, the surveyor, Moses Murphey, younger brother of Charles, and John Dabbs, a large landowner of Cross Keys District to the lower branch of the Legislature that year.[25] James Lemon took a seat on the Inferior Court February 12,[26] and John Glen succeeded Charles Murphey as Clerk of the Superior Court on September 22nd.[27] Glen, a son-in-law of old Mason Shumate, was only 26 at that time, but was destined later to play an important role in the building of Atlanta. He was the great-grandfather of our esteemed fellow citizen and able lawyer, William G. Grant.

Taxes and relief for the indigent, both ever present, if not pleasant subjects, came before the Inferior Court of De Kalb early in 1835. On January 14, the Court ordered, "That an extra tax of twenty-five per cent be levied on the general tax of said county, for county purposes."[28]

A month later, February 12, the Court ordered, "that the County Treasurer of De Kalb County pay over to E. B. Reynolds (also, Clerk of the Inferior Court), Trustee of the Paupers of said County, One hundred and ten dollars, for the benefit of said paupers."[29]

Road and bridge building, a perpetual activity in a growing section, continued to receive attention in 1835. On February 12, apparently a busy day for the Inferior Court, it was ordered, "that Moses Bibby, Naman Hardman, James Paden, Angus Johnson & William Johnston are hereby appointed reviewers to view, that part of the Road, from Decatur to Pace's Ferry on the Chattahoochee, by the old Road from Garrison's Mill, to a A. Chandler's, and the new Road that leaves the old Road at Garrison's Mill, and intersects the old Road again at Chandler's Shop, and for said reviewers to report to the court as early as practicable, which of the two Routs will be of the most public utility."[30]

The reviewers, doubtless after much reflection and tramping about, turned in their report on February 27th, as follows:

> "We believe the Rout which goes around Mr. [Isaac] Steels' plantation, say leaving the head of the lane beyond Garrison's Mill, and intersecting the same Road near A. Chandler's Shop, to be considerably the best for carriages, and but little farther."[31]

The writer believes that parts of this road are incorporated in the present LaVista and East Pace's Ferry Roads. The Abraham Chandler and Isaac Steele plantations adjoined each other in the present LaVista Road-Buford Highway neighborhood. Matthias Garrison's Mill was on Peachtree Creek, in the same general vicinity.

Two bridges came up for action on March 7th.

Philip H. Burford, Thomas Austin, Elijah Bird, Charles Latimer, and Minty Fowler were appointed Commissioners to let to the lowest bidder the building of a bridge across Snapfinger Creek on the Road from Decatur to Covington.

Lochlin Johnson, John Morris, Josiah F. Cobb, James Jones, and Dempsey Perkerson were appointed Commissioners to do the same relative to a bridge across South River on the Road from Decatur to McDonough at the place known as Clifton's Bridge.[32]

Neglect of duty by some road commissioners led to punitive action by the Inferior Court, as evidenced by the following order, passed December 9th:

"Ordered that a fine of Twenty Dollars be levied on each and every Commissioner of publick roads for neglect of duty, which may be remitted by their causing all the publick roads in their respective districts to be put in such order as required by the Road laws of this State by the Second Monday in January next."[33]

This order was fair warning to the group of good citizens who assumed responsibility for the roads of De Kalb County on January 4, 1836. In fact they had less than two weeks to get everything in shape. The list of Road Commissioners appointed on the above date is the first of record and is worthy of preservation. It follows:

531 District, G. M.—Robert Jones, J.P., William Jackson & James Paden.
536 " " John McGinnis, J.P., George L. Black & William Fowler.
530 " " Samuel L. Wilson, J.P., Charner Humphries & Edward Watts.
479 " " Nathaniel Mangum, J.P., Constantine Wood & John White.
469 " " Moses Bibby, J.P., Richard C. Todd & Dempsey J. Connally.
722 " " Hardy Pace, J.P., John M. Harris & Isaac Reid.
524 " " Josiah Power, J. P., Reuben Martin & John Isom.
686 " " James W. Reeve, J.P., John L. Evins & Hastings D. Palmer.
572 " " Willis Lankston, J.P., John T. Dabney & Thomas J. Akins.
637 " " Ranson Seay, J.P., David D. Anderson & John W. Fowler.
563 " " James Diamond, J.P., John Hoyle & John P. Corr.
683 " " Benjamin J. Camp, J.P., Charles Latimer & Josephus Harrison.
487 " " Joseph D. McEver, J.P., John Jones & James A. Barr.[34]

The month of February, 1835, brought to De Kalb County the coldest weather it had yet experienced. Levi Willard recorded:[35]

"It is not common for the mercury to fall below zero in Georgia; but on the 17th of February, 1835, it stood at five below zero. The wind was high which made the weather harder to bear than several degrees colder in a still atmosphere."

By 1835 the Cherokee country in Georgia had been divided into eleven counties and was rapidly being settled by whites. From a strictly legal point of view however, the land was still owned by the Indians, of whom 16,542 yet resided in northwest Georgia.[36] The Cherokees had ceded no land since 1819.

This rather unique situation was not long to endure. For on December 29, 1835, at the Indian capital, New Echota, a treaty was entered into between the Cherokees and representatives of the United States Government that ended Georgia's long struggle to dispossess the former. It was signed on behalf of the Indians by John Ridge, in the absence of John Ross who objected violently to the treaty.[37]

Objections to the contrary notwithstanding, and they were many and loud, the treaty was enthusiastically received by President Jackson and ratified by the Senate on May 23, 1836, by a margin of one vote.[38]

By the terms of the treaty of New Echota, the Cherokees ceded to the United States all their remaining lands east of the Mississippi River, for which they were to receive five million dollars and a large tract of land in the government reservation west of the Mississippi. They were to be paid also for their houses and other improvements left behind, and the government was in addition to bear the expense of their transportation and to furnish them supplies for one year after their arrival in the new home.[39] The treaty also provided that the Cherokees must evacuate the State of Georgia by May, 1838, or suffer forcible removal.[40] Final removal was not accomplished until that year.

Thus at New Echota, on December 29, 1835, the Cherokee Nation signed away the last Indian title to land within the State of Georgia.

As a footnote to the Cherokee situation in Georgia in 1835 it is interesting to record that one of the first non-residents to take an overzealous interest in the State's racial problems was John Howard Payne, author of "Home Sweet Home." He was a champion of the Cherokee Indian cause and came to Georgia in October, 1835, and visited Chief Ross at Red Clay. His primary purpose was to collect information from which he intended to write a book. On November 7 he and Ross were arrested by the Georgia Guard and placed in confinement at Spring Place near Dalton, supposedly in a log hut adjoining the Vann mansion. There Payne spent twelve days awaiting trial for sedition—a charge brought by the Georgia Guard. He was acquitted, as he should have been, and thereupon retired from the State.[41]

NOTES—CHAPTER 13

[1] John D. Humphries, *Descendants of Charles Humphries of Virginia* (Atlanta, 1938), 25.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] Based on information obtained during an interview between Jeremiah S. Gilbert, Franklin M. Garrett and Wilbur G. Kurtz, at Gilbert's home on Perkerson Road, Jan. 24, 1931. Mr. Gilbert, age 92 at the time, was born in Fulton, then De Kalb County, in 1839, on the present site of Cascade Springs, then Sandtown, now Cascade Road. He was the son of Dr. William and Harriet Humphries Gilbert, the latter a daughter of Charner Humphries. Gilbert remembered vividly both his grandfather Humphries and "Whitehall". The above interview, during which a good description of "Whitehall" was obtained, served as the basis for the following articles:

A. Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Whithall Tavern", *A.H.B.*, V (Apr. 1931), 42-49.

B. Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Whitehall Named for Tavern", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 3, 1932.

C. Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "How Whitehall Got Its Name", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Sept. 1, 1935.

[4] Records Atlanta Title Company.

[5] Gilbert to Garrett and Kurtz, Jan. 24, 1931.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] *Ibid.;* Description taken substantially from Wilber G. Kurtz, "Whitehall Tavern", *A.H.B.,* V (Apr. 1931), 45-46.

[8] *Ibid.*

[9] *Ibid.*

[10] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[11] Cornelia E. Cooper, "History of West End", *A.H.B.,* XXXI (Jan. 1947), 69.

[12] *Ga. Laws,* 1835, p. 84.

[13] *Ibid.,* 1845, p. 91.

[14] "Garrett's Necrology". The death date on Charner Humphries' tombstone at West View, Apr. 14, 1855, is slightly in error. It should be Apr. 4. Appraisers for his estate were appointed Apr. 11, 1855. Dr. Joshua Gilbert made application July 18, 1881, for administration *de bonis non,* reciting the death date therein as April 4th. That Charner Humphries died suddenly and away from home is indicated by one of the vouchers of the administrator, being a receipt for two dollars for moving the corpse to Whitehall.

[15] Minutes Superior Court, Fulton, 1855, Book A. Hereafter cited as Minutes S. C., Fulton. *Cf.* 19 *Ga. Reports,* 614; Statement of Judge John D. Humphries, descendant of a brother of Charner Humphries.

[16] "Garrett's Necrology".

[17] By his grandson, Jeremiah S. Gilbert.

[18] Fulton County Inventory & Sales Book A, Ordinary's Office.

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] Gilbert to Garrett and Kurtz, Jan. 24, 1931; *Cf.* Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Whitehall Named for Tavern", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 31, 1932.

[22] Gilbert to Garrett and Kurtz, Jan. 24, 1931.

[23] Quoted in Cornelia E. Cooper, "West End", *loc. cit.,* 73.

[24] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, p. 440.

[25] *Ibid.,* 1925, p. 321.

[26] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 149.

[29] *Ibid.,* 155.

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] *Ibid.,* 156.

[33] *Ibid.,* 163.

[34] *Ibid.,* 170.

[35] Published in *De Kalb New Era,* Feb. 3, 1921.

[36] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 28-29; Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* 271

[37] Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* 264, *ff.*

[38] *Ibid.,* 272.

[39] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 58.

[40] Starkey, *Cherokee Nation,* 272.

[41] *Ibid.,* 258, *ff.;* George M. Battey, Jr., *A History of Rome and Floyd County* (Atlanta, 1922), 60.

CHAPTER 14

1836

THE historian of the Atlanta area has at his command, beginning with the year 1836, an invaluable and illuminating record upon which to draw. Reference is thus made to the Minutes of the De Kalb County Superior Court in general and to the Grand Jury Presentments therein contained in particular[1]

It is the opinion of the writer that these presentments provide for the present day reader an insight into the month by month condition and development of the county not elsewhere available. They exhibit the thoughts and findings of substantial citizens, not presented in the most erudite fashion, but all the more interesting because phrased in their own words. Punctuation is usually lacking in these original long-hand records, but will be supplied together with correct spelling by the writer in the abstracts which will follow in their proper chronological place. The name of the "Foreman" will be given in all instances; the full jury fairly often, as indicative of those citizens active in county affairs.

The Grand Jury Presentments usually follow a general pattern. After reciting that they have been empaneled and sworn to act as the Grand Jury, they proceed with the recommendations and findings. These are made after an examination of the books of the county officials and of the county buildings, and also include the subject of public roads. The subject of Education (poor school fund) is mentioned frequently. For other subjects covered, the abstracts of the Presentments speak for themselves.

The De Kalb Superior Court, in 1836, and for some years thereafter had two regular terms, meeting at Decatur each year, which were designated as the March Term and the September Term. Sometimes the March Term was adjourned until April or May, and the September Term until October or November.

The Grand Juries, usually composed of 22 or 23 members, and two Petit Juries of 12 men each, were selected at the preceding term of Court.

The jurisdiction of the Superior Court was almost unlimited. In civil cases the most common causes of action or suit were based upon debt, attachment, and assumpsit. Others include covenant, slander, libel, case for words, trover and conversion, ejection, divorce, etc. Numerous cases involve the establishment of lost notes, deeds, etc., which emphasizes the lack of proper places for the safety of important papers, and carelessness.

In criminal cases the majority of True Bills were returned for assault and battery, larceny, gaming, riot, trespass, forgery, larceny after trust, stabbing, perjury, fornication and adultery, keeping lewd house, and vagrancy. Beginning in the late 1840's, after Atlanta came into being, murder and keeping tippling houses open on the Sabbath, became the subjects of a number of True Bills.

De Kalb County, from its creation in December, 1822, to December, 1826, was in the Flint Judicial Circuit. Judge Eli S. Shorter presided over the superior courts of that circuit from 1822 to 1825, being succeeded by Judge Charles J. McDonald.[2]

By Act of December 11, 1826, the Chattahoochee Circuit was created, to which De Kalb was assigned. Judge Walter T. Colquitt was the judge of that circuit from 1826 to 1832. He was succeeded by Judge Grigsby E. Thomas.[3]

By Act of December 16, 1833, the Coweta Circuit was created, and De Kalb County became a part thereof, remaining until 1869, when the name of the circuit was changed to the Atlanta Circuit. Fulton County, upon its creation out of De Kalb in 1853, was assigned to the Coweta Circuit.[4]

The following judges presided over the superior courts of the Coweta Circuit between 1836 and 1869: Hiram Warner, 1836-1840; William Ezzard, 1840-1844; Edward Young Hill, 1844-1853; Obediah Warner, 1853-1854; Orville A. Bull, 1854-1864; Benjamin H. Bigham, 1864-1866; Hiram Warner, 1866-1867; John Collier, 1867-1869.[5]

The first Grand Jury Presentments of record in De Kalb County were returned at the March, 1836 term of the Superior Court, and directed a withering blast to the Justices of the Inferior Court relative to bad roads. The presentments follow in full:

"We the Grand Jury sworn, chosen and selected for De Kalb County at March Term, 1836, having examined the tax collector's insolvent list, do agree to allow him $17.05 cts & 2 mills, in addition to what has already been allowed him for his insolvent list for the year 1835.

We present as a grievance the bad situation of a great many of our public roads and bridges and do most earnestly urge upon the Justices of the Inferior Court the absolute necessity of their immediate and prompt enforcement of the Road laws, and that no excuse be received by them short of the same being cleared out and improved according to the strict letter of the law.

In taking leave of his Honor Judge Iverson,[6] we tender him our approbation for his able, prompt and impartial administration of the laws during the present Term of this Court.

We tender to the Solicitor General our thanks for his polite attention to this body during said Term, and also for the faithful discharge of his duties.

HARDY PACE, Foreman,

James H. Kirkpatrick
James Guess
Robert Crockett
Samuel McElroy
George Elam
Edward Howard
Benjamin Howard
Isaac Hughs
Noah Hornsby
James Paden
Joel Farmer
James Phillips
Walter Wadsworth
John Stephenson
James R. George
Thomas McGriff
John Dabbs
Merrell Collier
Henry B. Latimer
James Ligon
Stephen Tilly
James Diamond"[7]

The following special presentment by the same jury will indicate how some of the citizens of 1836 were spending their spare time:

"The Grand Jurors . . . Hardy Pace, Foreman . . . In the name and behalf of the citizens of Georgia, charge and accuse Ephriam M. Pool and Andrew Jackson with the offense of gaiming on the 25th day of March, 1836, for on that day and date the said Ephriam M. Pool and Andrew Jackson, of the County of De Kalb . . . did in a certain white house situate in Decatur . . . known as the house of Matthias Hilburn, play at a certain game of cards called Brag alias Bluff alias Poker, contrary to the laws of said State, the good order, peace and dignity thereof.

"The Grand Jurors also charge and accuse Alfred B. Greenwood, Josiah Choice, John Townsen (of Henry County), Willis Cash, James Covinton, Barnet Boling, Aaron Rapshir, Henry Stowers, and James N. Hodges, of De Kalb County, with the offence of gaming . . . on the 23 day of March, 1836, at Decatur . . . that they did play and bet at a certain game of cards called Brag (alias Bluff) (alias Poker), contrary to the laws," etc.[8]

In justice to the memory of these gentlemen, it should be recorded here that they were all found "not guilty", at the September, 1836 term of court.[9]

The Grand Jury for the September, 1836 term took occasion to congratulate the County Treasurer, thereby preserving a record of De Kalb County's financial condition at that time.

"We have examined the fiscal concerns of the County and are happy to state that our County Treasurer, James Lemon, Esq., has discharged the duties of this office in a manner highly creditable to himself and satisfactory to us. We find in his hands $572.01 in Cash and a further sum of $2437.64 in Notes which we believe to be good.

THOMAS W. SLAUGHTER, Foreman."[10]

The ministerial officers of De Kalb commissioned January 10, 1836, were:

Shadrick Farmer, Sheriff, John Glen, Clerk Superior Court, E. B. Reynolds, Clerk Inferior Court, Sanford Gorham, Surveyor, and Joel Morton, Coroner.[11] Isaac N. Johnson became De Kalb's representative in the State Senate,[12] and the versatile Dr. Chapman Powell succeeded Moses Murphey for the County in the House.[13]

One new church and another post office came De Kalb's way during the year.

The church, now located at Doraville, is of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian denomination. It was organized by the Rev. Thomas Turner. Charter members were: Samuel McElroy, Sr., John McElroy, Samuel McElroy, Jr., William McElroy, Andrew McElroy, Joseph Stewart, William and John Stephenson, and the women of the different families. The McElroys came to De Kalb from Anderson, South Carolina, in the 1820's.[14]

The old cemetery belonging to this church, and known as Prosperity, is located on Peachtree Road about half way between Chamblee and Doraville. Among the pioneers resting in this well kept God's acre are Alexander Chestnut, David Chestnut, Robert Eidson, James Gardner, Dr. Wm. H. Goodwin, Robert D. Jeffares, Rev. John McElroy, Samuel McElroy, Sr., and Jr., Capt. W. A. C. Miller, Robert M. Wilson and J. B. Womack.[15]

The new postal facility was Utoy Post Office, established March 9, with Daniel Stone as Postmaster, and located on Sandtown, now Cascade Road in the northeast corner of Land Lot No. 248 of the 14th District at a point about midway between the south fork of Utoy Creek and the present Fairburn Road. The office functioned until July 7, 1866, when it was discontinued. Succeeding postmasters were: Thomas A. Kennedy, Henry B. Latimer, then Kennedy again.[16]

The first regularly organized military company in the County, as distinguished from the militia, was the "Volunteer Light Infantry", incorporated by an Act of the Legislature approved December 22, 1835.[17]

The mettle of the De Kalb Light Infantry was to be tested early in 1836. After the lottery of 1827, by which a large tract of disputed lands was parcelled out to individuals, the Creeks became more discontented and depredations became more frequent and serious. In the early spring of 1836 the Creeks formed a union with the Seminoles of Lower Alabama and soon after commenced making hostile demonstrations along the lower Chattahoochee. Troops were sent to that section as soon as possible and in a short time the country was in open war.

Captain E. N. Calhoun of the De Kalb Light Infantry had apparently been alerted for this trouble on January 13. His reply to Colonel Bolling H. Robinson, Aid-de-Camp, Headquarters Milledgeville, Georgia, indicates a sad state of unpreparedness but withal a hopeful spirit.

"Decatur, De Kalb, Jan'ry 22nd, 1836.

Col. B. H. Robinson:

On last night I received yours of the 13th Inst. requiring me to prepare my company (the De Kalb Light Infantry) to march at a moments warning if required, & also to report to Headquarters, etc. I will state to you that for the last two years, the company has abolished company Musters, and substituted in lieu thereof camp Musters, & since the last camp Muster the Emigration from our section of country has been so great, that at present after looking over the Roll, we have but 38 officers and privates left. Our uniform, is citizen's clothing. I find in town about 44 guns. There may be a few more. Persons moving off have deposited their Muskets in different places & as yet, I am unable to find them, but hope in the course of 8 or 10 days to get them. The orders I have received, I hope will be effectual in rousing immediately a necessary degree of military feeling so much so, as to keep us in a continual state of preparation. I have this day issued orders, for a company Muster on Wednesday the 27th Inst. at which time I will use my endeavours (*sic*) to reorganize the company & get them to adopt some uniform that would be suitable to such an occasion. The Musketts (*sic*) & accoutrements that we received from Milledgeville were very much out of repair. They seemed as though they had gone through, not only the last Indian war, but even the revolution. We have not any music, one thing that operates against us. I will give you the names of officers and privates at present belonging to the Company & after we have one or two Musters, which will be but a few days apart, I will report to you again, as it is likely we will be better off.

E. N. Calhoun, Capt.

E. N. Calhoun, Capt.
C. W. McGinnis, 1st Lieut.
S. E. Binion, 2nd Lieut.
John Jones, 1st Sergt.
Joseph L. McGinnis, 2nd Sergt.
John L. Towers, 3rd Sergt.
A. Vaughn
H. C. Roe
S. J. Anderson
Wm. Hawkins
J. A. Heard
John R. Bradford
Jesse Warren
James R. Henry
Robt. C. Anderson
James D. Thompson
Joseph R. White
Milton B. Henry
John W. Fowler
Austin G. Steward
Levi Hoyl
Royal Towers
F. C. Diamond
E. M. Diamond
A. B. Dabney
Chas. W. Griffin
Reuben Pickens
John S. McGinnis
R. A. Griffin
Robt. F. Davis
Moses W. Davis
Robt. Watson
J. B. Wilson
John T. Davney
E. A. Davis
E. B. Reynolds
John Glen
Moses Powell"[18]

Apparently Captain Calhoun succeeded in whipping his company into shape. Volunteers were called for and the requisite number made up without a draft. On its departure in the early spring of 1836, the ladies of Decatur and vicinity prepared and presented a stand of colors to the company. When the company marched into West Point, it numbered, rank and file, eighty-four. Ten left because they would not be mustered into the United States service, leaving seventy-four.[19]

Not to be outdone by his brother, Captain James M. Calhoun organized a Volunteer Cavalry Company. It also went to southwestern Georgia, and in an attack on the Indians, had two men killed—John Willis, son of James Willis, of Snapfinger neighborhood, and Matthew J. Orr, son of Robert Orr, of Utoy Creek settlement.[20]

By 1836 some of the original settlers of De Kalb County had begun to answer the final summons. Among them was Benjamin Plaster, Sr., on November 25th. He was born in Rowan County, North Carolina, in 1780, son of John and Susanna Plaster. Shortly after his marriage to Sarah Sewell, also of Rowan County, in 1802, the couple moved to Franklin County, Georgia. There Benjamin was commissioned a lieutenant of the Franklin County militia in 1810, serving until 1812, when he resigned.[21]

During the War of 1812 Benjamin Plaster served as a private in Captain Garret L. Sandidge's Company, Major William Alexander's Battalion of Riflemen, Georgia Militia, from August 26, 1813 to March 4, 1814.[22]

About the time De Kalb County was created, the Plaster family arrived from Franklin County and settled in what is now the Peachtree District of Fulton. Here Mr. Plaster reared his family and occupied himself as a planter, oblivious of the fact that a great city was to rise a short distance to the south and eventually encompass his lands on Peachtree Creek and Clear Creek.

The will of Benjamin Plaster, Sr., is the oldest of record in De Kalb County. It was probably refiled after the fire of 1842, for the probate proceedings upon it are not of record. It is herewith quoted in full as an interesting contemporary document:

"In the name of God Amen I, Benjamin Plaster, of the State of Georgia and County of De Kalb, being sick and weak of body, but of perfect mind and memory, Knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to die, do make and ordain this, and this only, my last will and Testament. First and principally of all, I recommend my soul to God who gave it, and my body to the earth from whence it came, to be buried in decent Christian burial. At the discretion of after mentioned Executors as touching things of worldly estate, wherewith God has blessed me with, I give and bequeath and dispose of in the following manner and form.

1st. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Sally Plaster the lot of land whereon I now live, No. 58 in the 17th District of originally Henry, now De Kalb, three negroes, Gilbert, Silva and Willis, two of the best feather beds and their furniture, three cows and calves, and all the hogs (except fifteen, ten of them to Edwin Plaster and five to Benjamin Plaster), together with all the cooking utensils, one of the choice horses, and one years support of the crop.

2nd. I give and bequeath to my beloved Son-in-law John Williamson one dollar.

3rd. I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Dovey Daniel, two negroes Jesse and Orashe.

4th. I give and bequeath to my beloved son Edwin Plaster the east part of lots of land No. 103 & 102 in the 17th dist. originally Henry now De Kalb County, the line dividing said lots commencing at Clear Creek, the creek to be the line to the mouth, thence a direct line from there to the middle of the east and west line of lot No. 102, also lot No. 57 in the same dist. and County, also two negroes, Crawford and Minty.

5th. I give and bequeath to my beloved son Benjamin Plaster, the west part of the above divided lots of land No. 103 & 102, also lot No. 101 in the same district and County, and two negroes Elias and Winney.

6th. I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Elizabeth Gober, two negroes Nancy and Moses, also $4.00 in cash.

7th. I give and bequeath to my beloved daughter Piety Plaster one half of lot of land No. 49 in the 17th district of originally Henry now De Kalb County, also half of lot No. 48 in the same district and County, and two negroes Lydia and Reuben.

8th. I give and bequeath to my beloved grand daughter Sally Williamson, three negroes Jinkins, Leas and Sam. At the death of my beloved wife Sally Plaster, the lot of land whereon I now live is to be hers, one horse worth about fifty dollars, one feather bed and furniture, and one cow and calf. The balance of my negroes to be put into five lots, as follows, Bobb, Mariah in one lot, Tom and Molly in the 2nd lot, Daniel and Jerry to be in the 3rd lot, Cinda and Lauze in the 4th lot & Jiney in the fifth lot, and all the increase, should there be any, put with these five lots as near equal as possible. These five lots of negroes my five beloved Children is to have, Dovey Daniel, Edwin Plaster, Benjamin Plaster, Elizabeth Gober & Piety Plaster, they are to draw for them, and those of them that draws the valuablest lot they are to pay in proportion so as to make each lot of the same value.

9th. The balance of my estate not specified consisting of Stock, Lands, Blacksmith Tools, Cotton Gin, Threshing, and plantation tools to be sold at my death and equally divided between my five last named children. The three negroes that I bequeathed to my beloved wife, and their increase, should there be any, at her death to be sold and also equally divided between my five children Dovey Daniel, Edwin Plaster, Benjamin Plaster, Elizabeth Gober and Piety Plaster. It is also my will distinctly that my beloved son-in-law John Williamson and beloved grand daughter Sally Williamson is not to have any more than what I have bequeathed them individually in the 2nd & 8th bequeathing.

10th. And in order that this my last will and Testament may be carried fully into effect, I do hereby constitute, ordain and appoint my beloved sons Edwin Plaster and Benjamin Plaster my Executors, and revoking all others & do hereby ratify and confirm this and this only my last will and Testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and affixed my seal, this, the eighth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty six. Signed, Sealed and acknowledged in presence of

Test BENJ. PLASTER (L.S.)[23]
SAMUEL WALKER
her
SARAH X BALENGER
mark
JOHN N. BALENGER"

John N. Bellinger, to use the correct spelling, was a pioneer De Kalb County lawyer and neighbor to Benjamin Plaster. He probably drew the will.

One could stand today atop the new Darlington Apartment at Peachtree and Brighton roads and, looking in any direction but west, view the former domain of Benjamin Plaster. The 1316 acres disposed of by his will in 1836 are now worth millions. They include the present sites of Peachtree Hills Park, Peachtree Heights, the eastern part of Brookwood Hills, Armour Station, a large sector of the Rock Springs Community, the Lindmont Development and both sides of Piedmont Road from just south of the Seaboard Railroad bridge to the Southern Railway underpass at East Wesley Road.

Piedmont Road was in fact, originally called Plaster's Bridge Road. Plaster's Bridge took the road over Peachtree Creek two or three hundred feet downstream from the present bridge on Piedmont Road over that stream.

The home of Benjamin Plaster, Sr., was located on the present site of The Spool Cotton Company, southeast intersection of Lindberg Drive and the Southern Railway, near the center of his holdings, and in Land Lot No. 58 of the 17th District.

The old gentleman was buried in his family cemetery on the crest of a hill several hundred feet south of the house and overlooking Peachtree Creek, in a right angle formed by that stream and the main line of the Southern Railway to Washington. Among others who keep him company in unmarked and undisturbed rest are his wife, Sally Plaster, son Benjamin, Jr., who died in 1855; grandson, John Wesley, son of Benjamin, Jr., who was killed by robbers at "Tight Squeeze" (Peachtree and 10th Streets) shortly after the War Between the States; Captain Hezekiah Cheshire, previously mentioned, and Henry Brockman (1812-1851), another pioneer citizen of that section. Edwin Plaster, the other son (1813-1858) was originally buried in the family cemetery but was moved to the Rock Springs churchyard on Piedmont Road after its establishment in 1870. His grave there is substantially marked.[24]

Benjamin Plaster did not live to see the coming of the railroad or the rise of Atlanta. Yet for the last 77 years of his slumber, the trains of the Southern Railway to and from the East have thundered by within a hundred feet of his otherwise quiet resting place.

Georgia's appetite for railroad enterprises was considerably whetted in 1835 by the alertness of neighboring states in taking advantage of the new mode of transportation.

During that year, through the leadership of Robert Y. Hayne, John C. Calhoun and others, South Carolina began the promotion of a railroad to connect Charleston with Louisville and Cincinnati on the Ohio River. The states most likely to benefit from this project were Kentucky, Tennessee, North and South Carolina and Georgia. South Carolina voted five thousand dollars for surveying that State.[25]

Governor Lumpkin of Georgia took note. Fearful that his state might not participate in the right-of-way of the project he warned the legislature that "the apathy of Georgia . . . is pregnant with the most fatal consequences." He expressed confidence that the mountains of Georgia afforded gaps and passways for the contemplated road far more favorable than any of her sister states.[26]

In response to this appeal the legislators requested the governor to employ an engineer to examine the mountain passes in northern Georgia with the object in mind of bringing the Charleston to Cincinnati line through the state. Accordingly Governor William Schley, who had succeeded Governor Lumpkin in 1835, appointed Col. Abbott Hall Brisbane, on August 3, 1836, to make the examination.[27]

Shortly before his appointment, Col. Brisbane, member of a prominent South Carolina family, and graduate of the United States Military Academy, had so distinguished himself in the Seminole War as Colonel of the South Carolina Volunteers, that he earned the title, "South Carolina Hotspur."[28]

During the summer of 1836 committees of citizens in various Georgia towns assisted in popularizing the Cincinnati Railroad proposal. One such committee gave a dinner in Athens, to which John C. Calhoun was invited. The distinguished South Carolinian sent a declination, in which he referred to the railroad project in the following language:

> "No state has a deeper interest in seeing the system executed than Georgia. Her position gives her great and commanding advantages in reference to railroads; more so in my opinion, than any other state in the union. . . ."[29]

Meanwhile, results of the railroad convention held in Knoxville, Tennessee, in July, had proven a disappointment to railroad advocates in Georgia. The State's fifty-five delegates at Knoxville found that under provisions of charters already granted within the other four states, the State of Georgia was excluded. Georgia had been somewhat tardy in taking up the matter and its exclusion was probably due to ignorance of the State's real interest in the proposed railroad. The State of Tennessee did place an extra clause in her charter that looked toward giving Georgia a share in the railroad by providing that Georgia might tap the main trunks at Knoxville, or some other convenient point.[30]

Efforts upon the part of the Georgia delegates to divert the project being futile, a convention was called to meet in Macon in November. Delegates equal to the representation in the legislature were to be chosen from each county. The purpose of this convention was to get before the people, and ultimately the legislature, a proposal in workable form for the building of a state owned railroad.[31]

Augustine S. Clayton, chairman of Georgia's Knoxville delegation, indicated in his call for the Macon convention, that the delegation favored a connection with the Louisville, Cincinnati, and Charleston Railroad Company, but added that complications relative thereto recommended a more direct, speedy and economical accomplishment of the work. Hence the accent upon a state owned project.[32]

Thirty-eight counties and two railroads were represented at the Macon convention, the railroads being the Monroe Railroad Company and the Georgia Railroad Company.[33]

Gist of the resolutions passed at Macon were: First, the state should build a central railroad as a state project. Second, private companies should be encouraged to build branch roads from any points on the trunk line. Third, special attention was directed to branch lines to Athens, Forsyth, and Columbus, the first two representing the northern terminal points of the railroads represented at the convention. Referring to the recommendation for a railroad through the center of the state, the committee reported:

"It is a matter about which no doubt is entertained by those well acquainted with the localities of the country, that an excellent route for the road, requiring not a single inclined plane or a stationary engine, can be obtained from Ross' Landing (present site of Chattanooga) to some point on the Chattahoochee in De Kalb County."[34]

Coincidentally with the convention, Governor Schley brought the matter before the legislature, armed with a copy of the proceedings at Knoxville, and the report of Colonel Brisbane and his associate Edward B. White.[35]

The legislature, which met in November, 1836, could hardly escape the pressure for action upon a railroad project.

A bill, sponsored by William Washington Gordon, member of the House from Chatham County and president of the Central Railroad Company, was introduced, providing for the building of a railroad at state expense.[36]

Introduction of the bill gave rise to a long and spirited debate during the course of which Alexander H. Stephens, a fledging member of the house, made his maiden speech in the bill's favor. Other speaking talent, for the measure, included W. W. Gordon, Andrew J. Miller, Iverson L. Harris, Edward Y. Hill, Charles J. Jenkins, George W. Crawford, and Robert Toombs, the latter two, new members of the legislature.[37]

In spite of strong opposition, led by Samuel W. Flournoy, James A. Meriwether, William B. Pryor, and Isaac N. Davis, the bill finally passed, 76 to 65. It was Gordon's influence that resulted in the naming of Ross' Landing as the northwestern terminus of the road, rather than looking toward tapping the Cincinnati and Charleston road, though Governor Schley favored the latter.[38]

The Act, finally approved by Governor Schley on December 21, 1836, authorized the construction of a railroad communication "from some point on the Tennessee line near the Tennessee River, commencing at or near Rossville in the most direct practicable route to some point on the southeastern bank of the Chattahoochee River and which shall be most eligible for the extension of branch railroads thence to Athens, Madison, Milledgeville, Forsyth, and Columbus, and to any other points which may be designated by the engineer or engineers surveying the same as the most proper and practicable, and on which the Legislature may hereafter determine."[39]

No specific mention of terminal points were made, since it was felt that these details could be taken care of later, once the route between the streams was ascertained.

Section 11 of the Act provided, "That said railroad shall cross the Chattahoochee River at some point between Campbellton, in Campbell County, and Wynn's Ferry in Hall County."[40] These points are some seventy miles apart, as the river flows.

Section 9 provided that "said railroad shall be known and distinguished as the Western and Atlantic Railroad of the State of Georgia."[41]

The appropriation clauses in the Act provided that no more than three hundred sixty thousand dollars should be appropriated annually for the enterprise unless future legislation should provide otherwise. Of this sum sixty thousand dollars was set aside for the purpose of surveying and locating the road.[42]

So it came to pass in 1836 that the survey made by Wilson Lumpkin and Hamilton Fulton in 1826, bore fruit. The constant advocacy of Lumpkin during the intervening decade, for a state-sponsored railroad was about to take tangible form.

None of the advocates of the railroad had even a remote thought concerning a future city to be called Atlanta. Yet the Act creating the Western and Atlantic Railroad could be construed, in the light of later events, as an Act creating the City of Atlanta. Without it there would have been no Atlanta.

NOTES—CHAPTER 14

[1] Minute Book A, De Kalb Superior Court, begins with the March term, 1836. It was the current Minute Book in 1842 when the Court House in Decatur burned, together with all records except this book and the Minute Book of the Inferior Court. Both apparently, were out of the building, the probability being that the respective clerks were working upon them at home. In spite of subsequent Court House fires, the De Kalb records are intact from early 1842.

[2] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 735.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] Judge Alfred Iverson, Sr., of the Chattahoochee Circuit, who was probably substituting for Judge Warner at this term of court.

[7] Minutes Superior Court, De Kalb County, 1836, Book A. Hereafter cited as Minutes S. C., De Kalb.

[8] *Ibid.*

[9] *Ibid.*

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[12] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, p. 440.

[13] *Ibid.,* 1925, p. 321.

[14] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 15.

[15] "Garrett's Necrology".

[16] Record Postmasters, De Kalb and Fulton; Phillips' Map of Fulton County, 1872.

[17] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 23.

[18] Original letter, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[19] Levi Willard, "Early History of Decatur Written Many Years Ago" [The Creek War], *De Kalb New Era,* Jan. 20, 1921.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] Information furnished to Franklin M. Garrett by Miss Emma Plaster, of Atlanta, Apr., 1950. Miss Plaster is a direct descendant of Benjamin Plaster.

[22] From information furnished to Dept. Archives and History, Atlanta, by Mrs. Jack Castleberry, of Longview, Texas, a descendant of Benjamin Plaster.

[23] De Kalb County Will Book A.

[24] "Garrett's Necrology".

[25] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 226.

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Henry Corton, "The Irish and the Albany to Waresboro Railroad", *Inn Dixie Magazine,* Nov., 1938.

[29] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 227.

[30] *Ibid.,* 227-228.

[31] *Ibid.,* 229.

[32] *Ibid.,* 230.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] *Ibid.;* Minutes of the Convention were published in *The Southern Recorder,* Milledgeville, Ga., Nov. 15, 1836.

[35] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 230-231.

[36] *Ibid., A.H.B.,* XIX (Oct., 1939), 275

[37] *Ibid.,* 276.

[38] *Ibid.*

[39] *Ga. Laws,* 1836, p. 214.

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 15

1837

ON MARCH 4, 1837, while Martin Van Buren was being inaugurated President, and Chicago received a charter as a city, Governor Schley was carrying on a brisk correspondence in an effort to secure the services of some experienced engineer to survey and build the newly authorized Western and Atlantic Railroad.

The Governor's interest in the project was sincere and active. Writing to William Dearing, of Athens, President of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company, on January 5, 1837, he expressed his determination to give the work as much of his personal supervision as time would permit. "If zeal, perseverance and industry can effect anything," he said, "they shall not be wanting."[1]

Among the engineers corresponded with by Governor Schley was the noted firm of McNeill and Whistler, composed of Williams Gibbs McNeil and George Washington Whistler, the latter father of the well-known artist James Abbott McNeill Whistler. McNeill had been recommended by Wm. W. Gordon, of the Central Railroad and, while he accepted at once, subsequent negotiations bogged down on the question of compensation. The second candidate approached, Colonel J. J. Albert, also came high. He demanded a salary of $10,000 per annum and was dropped, it is said, for someone "more moderate in his views."[2]

J. Edgar Thomson, Chief Engineer of the Georgia Railroad, came through with an acceptable and excellent suggestion on March 6. He recommended Stephen Harriman Long, which nomination was seconded by Colonel Albert in a letter to W. W. Gordon. He said "he [Long] is one of the most amiable of men, as well as one of the best informed of our officers and particularly well versed in the properties of railroads. He would be a great acquisition."[3]

Gordon, in turn, recommended Long to Governor Schley. He wrote: "Colonel Long is an officer of high standing in the Engineer Corps. I was acquainted with him 20 years since—he was then assistant professor of mathematics at West Point and he has since been employed in the most arduous services of the Government."[4]

When Long himself was approached, he mentioned a salary of $9000 for which he was willing to resign from the Army for what he called "more favorable engineering work."[5] After lengthy negotiations he was finally whittled down to $5000 and accepted the position of Chief Engineer as of May 12, 1837, for a period of not less than six months, the time to be extended dependent upon the action of the legislature. He remained in the Army and was allowed, by his contract with the State, to be absent one-third of the time for the purpose of looking after personal affairs.[6]

Stephen Harriman Long, in a few months to establish the site of a future city, was born in Hopkinton, New Hampshire, in 1784. After graduation from Dartmouth he taught a few years. He then entered the Army in 1814 as a lieutenant in the Engineers. Until 1816 he was a professor of mathematics at West Point, being transferred that year to the topographical engineers with the rank of major. For subsequent explorations in the West he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel.[7]

In 1827 he commenced his railroad work by taking charge of the survey of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and, while so engaged, wrote his Railroad Manual, the first original treatise on railroad building published in this country. After leaving the Western and Atlantic in November, 1840, he resumed his duties in the Army, but continued to act as consulting engineer for various railroads. He died in Alton, Illinois, September 4, 1864, at the age of eighty,[8] two days after General William T. Sherman, following bitter conflict, had captured every mile of the railroad Long had located, and had taken possession of the city that had grown up at the "terminus" he had designated for the road twenty-seven years before.

Governor Schley, on May 13, 1837, gave to Long a list of instructions, and the Chief Engineer set out for the Chattahoochee, where his observations were to begin.

The preliminary surveys took place in May and June and were assigned to three assistants, each of whom took a section of the route and headed a so-called brigade. These three assistants were William S. Whitwell, of Boston, Thomas Stockton and Abbott Hall Brisbane, the erstwhile "South Carolina Hotspur," of Charleston.

It will be remembered that insofar as the Chattahoochee was concerned, the Act creating the railroad specified that it should cross that stream somewhere in the seventy-mile stretch between Winn's Ferry on the north and Campbellton on the south. Therefore it devolved upon Long and his associates to find the best crossing within these limitations and the most feasible point on the south bank for an extension of the railroad to meet those coming from Augusta, Macon and Columbus.[9]

On the Tennessee, he had a river frontage of twenty-nine and one-half miles on which to find his other point. Having located these points, the ensuing task was to find the ground most favorable for the construction of a railroad between them. His greatest difficulty lay in the rough country between the Chattahoochee and the Etowah, where valleys had to be crossed. Above the Etowah there were certain valleys available that could be traversed lengthwise.[10]

All likely Chattahoochee crossings were investigated and in his first formal report to Governor Schley from Athens on July 1, Long named six routes by which a railroad might be built through the difficult territory between the rivers. The six routes inspected, from the Chattahoochee, and running from north to south were (1) Winn's Ferry (nearly opposite Flowery Branch) to the Etowah; (2) Collins' Ferry near Warsaw in Old Milton, then Forsyth County; (3) Pittman's Ferry in Gwinnett County and about two miles downstream from Warsaw, to Allatoona; (4) Montgomery's Ferry, at Bolton, to Marietta; (5) Sandtown in Old Campbell County, to Marietta and (6) Campbellton by way of Sweet Water Creek and Powder Springs.[11]

For topographical reasons, all were rejected except the Montgomery Ferry and the Pittman Ferry routes. It was therefore decided to begin work near Pittman's Ferry on July 4, a propitious time to attract public attention to the project. Plans were made to have the Governor present and to have the first stake driven on that date. Whether Governor Schley was actually present on the 4th is not known. It is known, however, that he was with Long at Pittman's Ferry on the 11th.[12]

At any rate work did begin on Independence Day. Brisbane and Whitwell beginning on the west bank of the river and Stockton on the east. Stockton's particular purpose was to find a route by which the road could be brought from the Hog Mountain Ridge down to and across the river.[13]

Brisbane, before the day was over, placed a bench mark on the west bank of the river two miles below Pittman's Ferry at the present Medlock Bridge, where the road from Pinkneyville to Warsaw now crosses the stream. From this point the engineers attempted to reach the Etowah by practical grades. Several lines were run, but the valleys of Little River and Vickery's and Noonday creeks intervened and the gradients did not comport with Colonel Long's specifications for a gradient of not over thirty feet per mile and curves limited to a radius of one thousand feet.[14]

So it happened that the Pittman Ferry route was abandoned. Had it prevailed Atlanta would probably have been built in the vicinity of Norcross. The Hog Mountain or Peachtree ridge did eventually become the foundation for a railroad—the main line of the Southern to the East.

The engineers thereupon adjourned to Montgomery's Ferry at old Fort Gilmer and the Standing Peachtree. Down stream some fifteen hundred feet from the ferry was a high bluff on the De Kalb side of the river. At Long's direction Brisbane and Stockton[15] began on this bluff, now called Bolton. Their projections, north and south from this point, indicated its feasibility. Accordingly the river crossing was fixed upon the precise spot where the old Dixie Highway No. 41 and the former interurban line to Marietta spanned the river. In 1850, to eliminate a sharp curve and grade just south of the river, the original bridge was abandoned and relocated at its present site some eight hundred feet downstream.[16]

The survey of Brisbane and Stockton extended south from the Chattahoochee to the headwaters of South River and north to the Etowah. While it was in progress Colonel Long had apparently accompanied Governor Schley back to Milledgeville, and from there took leave for New York and other points for the purpose of looking after personal affairs. Meanwhile, writing to Governor Schley on September 10, 1837, Brisbane said:

> "The result of the levels to the ridge near Decatur, De Kalb County, which you authorized me to run proved altogether flattering; the ascent to the main ridge, where we left a bench mark, is only two hundred eighty-five feet above the level of the Chattahoochee, which is to be reached with a distance of eight miles—which at our assumed grades is attainable with ease. In fine, sir, nothing more is now required than to realize by physical ability that which intellectual enterprise has so handsomely planned. This I leave in your hands."[17]

The Act of 1836 had not provided for an extension of the railroad south beyond the southeastern bank of the Chattahoochee. However, no eligible point was found on or near the river bank for complying with that part of the Act reading, "which shall be most eligible for the extension of a branch railroad thence to Athens, Madison, Milledgeville, Forsyth. . . ." etc. Hence Schley's instructions to Brisbane to proceed with the survey into high ground south of the river.

On October 7, 1837, Brisbane wrote to the Governor that the work was ready for contractors, awaiting Long's return and the filing of his final report. Long was back on the job on October 22 and began assembling material for his report to the legislature. The report was submitted November 7 and, in comparing the Pittman's Ferry and Montgomery Ferry locations, Long said:

> ". . . an approximate location was effected on both, and an estimate of the probable cost of constructing a railroad on each was made. A comparison of the two routes was also instituted, on the principle of equated distances.

Thus compared and tested, the route leading from Montgomery's Ferry proved the more economical and favorable, in all respects, and has been fixed upon as the adopted route."[18]

As a matter of fact the cost of construction through Montgomery's Ferry was found to be $18,000 per mile less—a compelling reason for its selection.[19]

Long's report referred to the feasibility of the southern extension in the following language:

"A test level crossing the summit of the ridge to the head waters of the South River gave an elevation of two hundred eighty-five feet at a distance of eight miles, affording an available grade in the direction of the different road branches radiating from the main trunk."[20]

The legislature doubtless agreed with Long's conclusions for they were made official by an amendment to the 1836 Act on December 23, 1837, wherein it was specified that

". . . the Western and Atlantic Railroad shall continue from the southeastern bank of the Chattahoochee river, to some point not exceeding eight miles, as shall be most eligible for running branch roads. . . ."[21]

The amendatory Act was approved by George R. Gilmer, who had succeeded William Schley as Governor late in 1837.

It must be inferred from Brisbane's correspondence with Governor Schley on September 10 and October 7, 1837, that the southeastern terminus of the Western and Atlantic was pegged by the placement of a bench mark, either shortly before September 10, or between that date and October 7, when he wrote "that the work was ready for contractors."

This original terminus of the railroad (it was extended several years later) was in Land Lot No. 78 of the 14th District of De Kalb County, then owned by Reuben Cone of Decatur. The exact spot was, insofar as now ascertainable, where Foundry Street crosses the W. & A. (N. C. & St. L.) tracks. It may have been a little to the south although the location just cited was where the Monroe Railroad embankment joined the W. & A. in 1839.[22] Subsequent extensions will be discussed in a later chapter.

Suffice it to say here that the autumn of 1837 witnessed not only the fixing of a railroad terminal and junction point, but as incidental thereto, the founding of a great city. We may credit the team of Long, Brisbane, Governor Schley, ex-Governor Lumpkin and the State Legislatures of 1836 and 1837 with this accomplishment. Actual placement of the original terminal bench mark was performed by or under the immediate supervision of Abbott Hall Brisbane, though its location was approved by his superior, Stephen Harriman Long. The southern terminus of the Western & Atlantic and the settlement which grew up around it was to be known, unofficially, for the next few years as "The Terminus," or simply "Terminus."

Before the year was out, the Governor, on December 25, approved an Act of the Legislature amending the charter of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company so as to authorize it "to continue their road from the town of Madison in Morgan County, to pass through or near the town of Covington, in Newton County, to connect with and join the railroad about to be constructed by the State, from the Tennessee line near the Tennessee River, on the southeast bank of the Chattahoochee River."[23]

The Georgia Railroad was originally intended to run between Augusta and Athens, while a branch line to Greensboro was contemplated. The effect of the above cited charter amendment was to make the Greensboro branch the main stem, extending to Atlanta, after which Athens was left as the terminal of a branch line, as it remains today.

On December 10, 1836, the Monroe Railroad was granted banking privileges and its name changed to the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company. At the same time it was authorized to extend its line in a northwestern direction from Forsyth, its original terminus, to a point on the Chattahoochee River or to the southern termination of any railroad to be constructed by the State from the Tennessee line southward through the counties of the late Cherokee country. Further, that it shall be compelled and obliged to join such railroad so as to admit the continuous travel of cars and vehicles from the one to the other railroad.[24]

The Monroe road was not to delay long in availing itself of this privilege and duty.

While the promoters and surveyors of railroads were keeping an appointment with destiny in De Kalb, everyday life in the county pursued the more or less even tenor of its way.

Jonathan B. Wilson, the Decatur hatter, was elected to the State Senate in '37 and continued to hold the office until '39.[25] James Lemon, the County Treasurer, John L. Evins, for whose wife Nancy Creek was probably named, and James M. Calhoun, the lawyer, were all elected to seats in the lower branch of the legislature this year. Lemon and Evins also served through 1838.[26]

Five new Inferior Court Justices took over the every-day business of the county on January 10. They were Isaac N. Johnson, Lochlin Johnson, James Lemon, Lodowick Tuggle, and John N. Bellinger.[27] Justice Lemon was undoubtedly one of the busiest men in the county. It has been noted that he was elected to the legislature this year and was also serving admirably as county treasurer. In addition to these offices he was a partner, with his brother John, in the mercantile business of J. & J. Lemon. It was certainly De Kalb's loss and Cobb's gain when he moved to the latter county a few years later.

Apropos of his services as county treasurer, the Grand Jury for the March term, 1837, paid him a glowing tribute:

"We as the Grand Inquest have with the strictest scrutiny examined the books of the County Treasurer James Lemon, and find with the greatest pleasure the greatest imaginable accuracy in his books. There is a neat undisbursed residue of money amounting to Eight hundred and twenty and 50/100 dollars and notes aggregating $2457.64/100."

JOSEPH MORGAN, Foreman.[28]

Since the Grand Jury Presentments for the September term coincide almost exactly with the birth of an infant, later to be called Atlanta and, in addition thereto, give a fair picture of county affairs, they are herewith quoted in full:

"The Grand Jury for the County of De Kalb with pleasure report that they have examined the books of the Treasurer of this County and find everything connected with the duty of that office in a condition highly satisfactory to us and creditable to himself. We find in favor of the County, cash, $367.78 and notes that we believe to be good, $2269.64/100.

They have also examined the records of the clerks of the Superior and Inferior Courts and it affords us satisfaction, as the proper organs of the County to examine and report their condition, to say that they are kept in a style highly honorable to those officers.

They have had under review the returns of the Tax Collector, and find the sum of $63.05 due unpaid and returned insolvent. From the fair showing of that officer in the discharge of his official duties, we allow in his return, that amount to his credit.

In some portions of our County we hear the situation of our roads complained of, and we are sorry to say not without just cause. The bridge across Peach Tree at Garrison's Mills is unsafe. We therefore recommend to the Inferior Court early and efficient means for the remedy.

They believe that a more rigid enforcement of the patrol law would produce salutary results in our slave population, and recommend especially to the Town Dist.,[29] to be vigilant in paying the proper attention to Houses occupied and controlled by slaves only.

With regard to the morale of our citizens, it must be a subject of congratulation, that amid the changing scenes of fortune, our State docket presents us few subjects for capital offense as any other County in this State. We may ascribe this in a good degree to the just and prompt execution of her laws, and the ready obedience of her citizens to obey them.

In taking leave of his Honor, Judge Warner, we individually tender to him our unqualified approbation for the able, impartial manner he has presided in administering the laws of the country. Also we present to George D. Anderson, Esqr., Solicitor General, our thanks for his prompt and assiduous attention to his duty, and for the constant and kind attention paid to our body. We recommend that our presentments be published in the *Federal Union* and *Georgia Journal.*"

LOCHLIN JOHNSON, Foreman.

James Paden
William Johnson
John L. Bradley
Robert Crockett
John Dabbs
William Morris
Daniel Durham
James M. Watson
John Rainy
John T. Savage
John Morris

William Jackson
Christopher Sewell
Meredith Collier
William B. Anderson
Henry Grogan
Naman Hardman
Edwin Johnson
John G. Parker
William Smith
Charles D. Parr
James Hall[30]

The Inferior Court apparently took the cue relative to the unsafe bridge over Peachtree Creek, for on October 21 it passed an order, ". . . to let the building of a bridge to the lowest bidder across the Peachtree Creek at Garrison's old mill."[31]

Before the year was out De Kalb County could boast of two new Post Offices. One was long lived; the other remained in operation but ten days. The former was Panthersville, established July 27, with George L. Black as Postmaster. His successors were George S. Cobb, Hugh M. Boyd and Lochlin Johnson until the office was discontinued August 9, 1856. It was re-established February 20, 1879, and functioned until April 30, 1901, when its operations were transferred to Decatur.[32]

The ten-day office was South River, August 2-10, 1837. Its one and only presiding officer was Nathaniel G. Hilburn,[33] destined, fourteen years later, to become the victim in one of Atlanta's earliest and most sensational murder cases. Hilburn was a dentist by profession and a son-in-law of John Bird, who, together with Merrell Collier, Dempsey Perkerson, and Lochlin Johnson, was one of the most prosperous and extensive of the ante-bellum South River planters.[34]

The neighboring town of Roswell, originally in Cobb County, now in Fulton, and the site of several fine examples of the "Golden Age of Southern Architecture," is an exact contemporary of Atlanta. It was established the year Long and Brisbane pegged the southern terminus of the W. & A. Railroad in Land Lot 78, although this event had nothing to do with Roswell's settlement.

Roswell King, prosperous low country planter and for some years manager of the famous Pierce Butler plantation on St. Simons Island, set out on horseback in 1837 to visit the newly established United States Mint at Dahlonega at the request of officials of the Bank of Darien.[35]

En route, and upon his arrival at the Chattahoochee River, he was much impressed with its possibilities. He carefully examined the country around it. The hills north of the river would afford a pleasant site for a town, and the stream itself offered abundant water power for manufacturing establishments.

Thus imbued with the possibilities of the location, Roswell King, together with his family and some friends from the low country, principally Chatham and Liberty counties, came to the hills above the Chattahoochee and founded a town. It was named for the man whose inspiration led to its settlement.[36]

Some of the original settlers intended to live in the high country only during the malaria season in the summer. However, most were so pleased with the natural charm of the locality that they became permanent year round residents.

Among those who cast their lot with Roswell King were the families of John Dunwody and James Stephen Bulloch. Shortly after the original settlers came Rev. Nathaniel Alpheus Pratt to take charge of the Roswell Presbyterian Church in May, 1840. He was accompanied by his wife, Catherine Barrington, daughter of Roswell King. From the time of his arrival until his death in 1879, Dr. Pratt was the beloved pastor of the frame Presbyterian church, yet standing and probably the oldest building in Roswell.[37]

Roswell King and his son, Barrington, established the Roswell Mills, for years the most successful cotton manufacturing plant in this section and the first in point of founding. After the father's death in 1844, the son became active head of the enterprise.[38]

The three architectural treasures of which Roswell is justly proud are Barrington Hall, Bulloch Hall, and Mimosa Hall. The Kings built the first, Major James S. Bulloch, the second, and John Dunwody, the third. All were erected in the early 1840's and are fine examples of the "Greek Revival" period of southern architecture. Mimosa Hall, together with its gardens, was restored during the 1920's by the late Neel Reid,[39] eminent Atlanta architect, who occupied the estate until his death in 1926.[40] The beautiful old place is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Granger Hansell of Atlanta, who give it the loving care it deserves.

Roswell King, John Dunwody, Dr. N. A. Pratt, and Major James S. Bulloch all left many notable descendants. Those of Major Bulloch have included a President of the United States and a First Lady. The Major's daughter, Mittie, was married to Theodore Roosevelt on December 22, 1853, at

Bulloch Hall in Roswell. They became the parents of President Theodore Roosevelt. Another son of Theodore and Mittie Bulloch Roosevelt, Elliott, became the father of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.[41]

The "Old Cemetery" at Roswell, hard by the cotton mill, grown up in weeds, with gravestones partially defaced by the rude markings of the thoughtless and ignorant, contains the mortal remains of the three principal founders of the historic village. The monuments above them were carved by the hands of experts and the inscriptions are worthy of preservation upon these pages:

In memory of
ROSWELL KING
Born at Windsor, Conn.
3rd May 1765, and
Died at Roswell Cobb Co., Ga.
15th Feb. 1844,
aged 78 years, 9 months,
and 12 days.
He was the founder of the
village, which bears his name.
A man of great energy,
industry and perseverance, of
rigid integrity truth and jus-
tice. He early earned and long
enjoyed the esteem and
confidence of his fellow-
men.
His children have erected
this stone to his memory.

JAMES S. BULLOCH,
DIED
in Roswell, February 18th,
1848
in the 56th year of his age.

BENEATH
THIS STONE
Rest the Mortal Remains of
JOHN DUNWODY, ESQR.
Born 13th January, 1786.
and of
JANE BULLOCH,
HIS WIFE
Born 8th April, 1788.
They were United in Marriage
on the 7th of June, 1808.
Separated by Her Death
on the 30th of June, 1856
They were Reunited to Part No More
on the 6th of June, 1858.
Their Children "Sorrowing Yet

Rejoicing" Have Erected This Monument
to Mark the Place Where Their
Bodies Repose. Their Virtues are
Entrusted to the Memories of
Those Who Loved Them—
Their Spirits They Committed to the
Charge of a Faithful Redeemer.

This much—and this is all—we know:
They are supremely blest,
Have done with sin and care and woe,
And with the Savior rest.

W. T. White, Charleston, So. Ca.[42]

NOTES—CHAPTER 15

[1] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 277.

[2] Beverly M. DuBose, "Stephen Harriman Long", *A.H.B.,* XIV (July, 1938), 177.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.,* 178.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 278-279.

[7] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long," *loc. cit.,* 169-170.

[8] *Ibid.,* 169, *ff.*

[9] *Ibid.,* 173.

[10] *Ibid.,* 174; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Man Who Placed Atlanta", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 19, 1933.

[11] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 174; Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 280.

[12] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 280.

[13] *Ibid.,* 281-292.

[14] Kurtz, "Man Who Placed Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[15] Whitwell's brigade had meanwhile been sent north to survey beyond the Etowah.

[16] Kutrz, "Man Who Placed Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[17] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 175; Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 283.

[18] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 283.

[19] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 174.

[20] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 283.

[21] *Ga. Laws,* 1837, p. 210.

[22] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Story of Land Lot 77," *A.H.B.,* XXXII (Dec. 1947), 41-59.

[23] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 19.

[24] W. A. Wimbish, of Counsel, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* (Atlanta, 1895), 24. Hereafter cited as Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case.*

[25] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, p. 440.

[26] *Ibid.,* 1925, p. 321.

[27] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[28] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1837, Book A.

[29] Decatur District.

[30] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1887, Book A.

[31] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 187.

[32] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] "Garrett's Necrology".

[35] Mrs. F. King Pratt, "How Roswell Was Built", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Dec. 4, 1927; Sarah Blackewll Gober Temple, "Roswell's Three Treasurers", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 2, 1936.

[36] Temple, "Roswell's Three Treasurers", *loc. cit.*

[37] Natalie Heath Merrill, "The Old Pratt Home in Roswell", *Atlanta Journal,* Jan. 21, 1934; "Garrett's Necrology".

[38] Temple, "Roswell's Three Treasurers", *loc. cit.*

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] "Garrett's Necrology".

[41] Temple, "Roswell's Three Treasurers", *loc. cit.*

[42] Cemetery visited and inscriptions copied by the present writer, July 10, 1931.

CHAPTER 16

1838

THE Act of December 23, 1837, authorizing the southeastward extension of the W. & A. Railroad from the Chattahoochee also provided for the election of three Commissioners to supervise generally the business of the road, and to act jointly with the Governor in raising funds for constructing it. The first Commissioners elected were Joel Crawford, Chairman, Thomas Hamilton, and Charles L. Bolton.[1] The settlement which grew up around the river crossing of the railroad bears, in all probability, the name of Commissioner Bolton.[2]

The exact date upon which actual construction of the railroad began is not disclosed by the record. That it was early in 1838 is, however, certain. By January, sixty miles was ready for the builders.[3] James M. Calhoun, writing to Governor Gilmer on February 20 after his return from the Cherokee country, probably Cass County, reported that he saw a number of Indians at work on the railroad.[4]

Long's idea was to begin at the now Atlanta end, since supplies could reach it more readily.[5] It eventuated, however, that construction began on both ends of the line about the same time.

Joel Crawford, reporting as chairman of the Board of Commissioners, wrote to Governor Gilmer on April 12, 1838, that,

"... the last not mentioned having directed an extension of the road east of the river, that part nearly eight miles in length has since been located, and is known as De Kalb division, and forms the first number of a series to the Tennessee boundary,"

and that

"... upon completion of surveys and location Col. Long was instructed to advertise that sealed proposals would be received at Marietta during the first week in April, 1838, for executing Masonry and grading. This was accordingly done. About seventy proposals were offered, and enough accepted to place under contract upwards of fifty miles of the road."[6]

Here the matter rested for a time. Five hundred men were already at work and commissioners were busy in efforts to procure rights of way. By October 30, 1838, Crawford was able to report that

"... that part of the road which was put under contract in April last, extending from a point nearly eight miles east of the Chattahoochee to one about two miles west of the Etowah River, embracing a distance of more than fifty miles, has been greatly advanced in a course of construction."[7]

Pick and shovel gangs were at work on the eight miles of railroad in De Kalb County before title to the right of way had actually been acquired. This eight miles of line, from the original terminus in Land Lot 78, traverses sixteen land lots in reaching the river. Five, being numbers 78, 79, 82, 81, and 112 are located in the 14th District. The others, Nos. 150, 189, 190, 191, 192, 223, 228, 229, 243, 244, and 245, are all in the 17th District. All were in De Kalb County until Fulton was created in 1853. The lots are listed in the order traversed by the railroad from southeast to northwest. Deeds secured thereto were all uniform and are exemplified by that from Reuben Cone through No. 78.

"Georgia, Cobb County.

Whereas, the General Assembly has by law provided by law for a great public work, appropriately known as the Western & Atlantic Railroad, a part of which located on lands to use.

Now, be it known that Reuben Cone, of the County of De Kalb and State aforesaid, for and in consideration of the sum of One Hundred and Twenty-five Dollars, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has, and do by these presents, concede and grant to said State, for the use and purposes of said railroad, the right of way comprising a space of an average of breadth of sixty-six feet, with the privilege of felling all timber which may reach said road on lot No. 78, in the 14th District of Henry, originally, now De Kalb County, Georgia, together with the privileges of taking and using all and any timber, either stone or gravel lying or being on said space of sixty-six feet for the construction of said road; and for the perpetual guaranty of said right of way, and the rights and privileges to said State of Georgia, I bind myself, my heirs and assigns, in fee simple, forever.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, this 29th September, A. D. 1840.

REUBEN CONE" [Seal][8]

It is interesting to note the names of the pioneers from whom some of the other rights of way were secured.

"Land Lot No. 82, from Hosea Maner, May 19, 1838.
Land Lot No. 81, from Cornelius M. Connally and T. E. Brown, June 26, 1846.
Land Lot No. 150, from Wesley Hudson and Josiah Long, May 19, 1838.
Land Lot No. 191, from John Golden, July 20, 1842.
Land Lot No. 223, from Nathaniel Mangum, April 11, 1839.
Land Lot No. 228, from Solomon Sweat, July 20, 1842.
Land Lot No. 245, from Nathaniel Sweat, June 27, 1840."

A deed was secured from D. J. Connally on May 11, 1838, giving right of way "over all my land in De Kalb County," although land lot number or numbers are not specified.[9] J. McC. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree welcomed the coming of the railroad and deeded a right of way through the two lots nearest the river, Nos. 244 and fractional, lot 243 on April 13, 1838.

How many, if any, of these deeds were secured by right of eminent domain is not known. It might be assumed, however, that John Golden's conveyance through Land Lot 191, was acquired in this manner.

Golden was no lover of railroads. He moved up to De Kalb from middle Georgia to get away from them before the W. & A. was authorized. He therefore greeted the builders of this line with something less than a welcome mat. It was necessary to blast a deep cut through Mr. Golden's property. In the process a boulder the size of a bed landed within a hundred feet of his dooryard. Golden accused the workmen of aiming the rock at his hewn log house. Numerous fist fights and rock battles ensued. The construction foreman accused

Golden and his proponents of pushing large rocks back into the cut on dark nights. The net result of the feud was that Golden found himself living on the railroad.[10]

The former Golden land lot is located at a point where the present Southern and N. C. & St. L. tracks closely parallel each other, near the south end of Inman Yards.

Old John Golden (or Golding as the name is sometimes spelled) started on a trip west in 1853 to visit relatives. He died in Arkansas while en route and was buried on the bank of the White River in that state.[11]

Before the year 1838 had ended, the Monroe Railroad was completed from Macon to Forsyth.[12] It was to invest a considerable sum in Land Lot No. 78, De Kalb County, during the ensuing two years.

The De Kalb County Grand Jury for the September term, 1838, took due notice of the Western and Atlantic Railroad and hazarded a prophecy with respect thereto:

> "We congratulate our fellow citizens on the great subject of Internal improvement in our State and in our own County with such vigor and industry which promises such benefits to our Section of the State. The Southern Terminus of the Western & Atlantic Rail Road being in our County, from which branches will connect the navigable waters of the west with the most of our Atlantic cities from which we must derive an invaluable trade."

LOCHLIN JOHNSON, Foreman.

Jordan Webb	John M. Harris
Hastings D. Palmer	James Millican
Joel Herring	James Guess
Allen Hardman	Green B. H. Terry
Allen Crowley	John Jennings
Ransom Seay	Thomas D. Harris
James M. Holly	Leonard H. Tomlinson
John G. McWilliams	Moses Murphey
John T. Dabney	Benjamin B. Avery
Dempsey Perkerson	Lodowick Tuggle
William Martin	George Avery[13]

The same jury found it necessary also to give attention to matters less epic in nature. It commented upon "the decayed condition of our Court House," and thereupon indicted William Slay for the murder of his wife, Elizabeth, on September 4, together with John Ray as an accessory; Catharine or Catsey Wright for keeping a disorderly house; William Heard for perjury in connection with a lawsuit involving the cutting and chopping of John Trimble's wagon; sundry citizens for gambling; and called it a day by expressing "regret to be under the necessity of finding so many True Bills for the violation of our law."[14] Apparently the morals of the County had declined to some extent since the preceding year.

The Inferior Court also took note of the W. & A. Railroad during the same month and year. On September 4 it passed the following order:

> "It is ordered that a Route for a Road as lately marked out by Hardy Ivy, Benjamin Little, Benjamin Thurman, and Hosea Maner, be opened out and kept up as one of the publick Roads of said County, said Road commenc-

ing on the Sandtown Road near the Southern Terminus of the Western & Atlantic Rail Road & intersecting the Nelson Ferry Road near Reid's Shantee."[15]

While the writer has never been able to identify Reid, or the location of his "shantee," he hazards a guess that the gentleman was a construction foreman on the W. & A. Railroad, and that his "shantee" was near the present intersection of the railroad and Magnolia Street. This street was once a segment of the Nelson's Ferry Road.[16]

The people of De Kalb sent to the lower branch of the State Legislature, in 1838, one of their oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, Meredith Collier. He was an original settler of the county and was the father of sixteen children, the oldest born in 1807 and the youngest in 1831. The term of representative Collier extended through 1839.[17]

Public attention was directed to Stone Mountain in 1838 by publication of the following item in the *Southern Recorder,* Milledgeville, on April 10:

"Mr. Aaron Cloud, of McDonough, Ga., is now engaged in erecting a tower or observatory on the top of Stone Mountain in De Kalb County, and is determined to raise it to the height of 300 feet."

While that height was not attained, the tower became an actuality and a focal point of interest for miles around. William C. Richards in his *Georgia Illustrated,* published in 1842, described Mr. Cloud's handiwork,[18] after a visit to the mountain:

"In the afternoon we ascended the mountain, accompanied by the owner of the tower. This singular edifice, resembling somewhat a lighthouse, is an octagonal pyramid, built entirely of wood. It stands upon the rock with no fastenings but its own gravity, and its height is 165 feet. It was built nearly three years ago at a cost of $5000. The erection of a lofty tower upon the summit of a high mountain is certainly a unique and curious exploit. The projector and proprietor is Mr. Aaron Cloud, of McDonough, and the work is commonly called Cloud's Tower. We ascended to the summit by nearly three hundred steps. The prospects we obtained were wide and beautiful, having the single fault of being rather too monotonous. The eyes rest upon a vast continuity of forest. The plantations and settlements appear small amid the sea of foliage. By the aid of good telescopes we distinguished five county towns. By way of parenthesis, I remark, that in 1847 I ascended this tower and took in view the surrounding territory. Among the towns I located was that of Atlanta, then a few straggling huts, just beyond Decatur."

Another visitor to Cloud's Tower, who was much impressed, was Rebecca Latimer, later Mrs. W. H. Felton, then a small child. She relates:[19]

"There was a tower on the [Stone] mountain that I saw first when I was a small child. There was that day dancing galore in the lower hall of the tower. A candy vendor persuaded my father to buy for me a white candy dove with buckshot for its eyes. That first tower was blown down in a storm and its successor was erected on the highest point on the mountain. The second one, also, went to the discard."

During the same year that Cloud built his tower, the village at the base of the mountain acquired an educational institution. The Stone Mountain Academy was incorporated and approved by the General Assembly, December 31, 1838.[20]

The thriving community of Buckhead, centering at the intersection of Peachtree, Roswell and Pace's Ferry roads, received its initial impetus on December 18, 1838, when Daniel Johnson deeded to Henry Irby the 202½ acres of land known as Land Lot No. 99 of the 17th District, then De Kalb, now Fulton County. The purchase price was $650.[21]

Johnson was an old resident of the county and, since 1824, had been established upon land now comprising Johnson Estates, which bears his name. His home stood in the angle now formed by North Highland Avenue, N.E., and Johnson Road, N.E.[22]

Henry Irby, a South Carolinian by birth, was a comparative newcomer to De Kalb at the time of his purchase. According to his granddaughter, Mrs. J. S. Donaldson, of Marietta, he was a man of small stature and wore a No. 6 boy's shoe.[23]

Not long after his purchase of Land Lot 99,[24] Mr. Irby erected a combination tavern and retail grocery at what is now the northwest corner of W. Pace's Ferry and Roswell roads. Later, probably in early 1840, someone, perhaps Irby himself, shot a large buck at a bold spring just south of Pace's Ferry Road and a few hundred feet west of Peachtree Road. The buck's head was mounted on a post at the spring and the locality, including Irby's tavern, came to be known, in something of a jocular vein, as Buckhead.[25]

Even so, the name has persisted to the present and is indelibly associated with the Atlanta area. Through the years abortive attempts have been made to change the name officially. In the course of one such effort, a comparatively few years ago, the mundane substitute of "Northside Park" was suggested. Happily it failed to prevail.

On October 5, 1841, after the legendary buck was shot, a United States Post Office was established at the Irby settlement and designated as Irbyville. It was discontinued December 8, 1842. William W. Sentell was the Postmaster.[26] After Fulton County was created, the office was reinstated on August 28, 1855, with Riall B. Hicks, son-in-law of Henry Irby, as Postmaster. Again it was discontinued March 25, 1861, but reopened January 25, 1867. The office was closed, to reopen no more, on April 18, 1873. One of its Postmasters, 1867-1870, was James L. Mathieson,[27] father of retired Fulton County Police Chief, George Mathieson.

While attempts have been made to designate Buckhead as a Post Office, sanction of the Post Office Department was not secured because of a prior office of the same name in Morgan County on the Georgia Railroad. However, the Atlanta Post Office has long maintained its North Side Branch in the community.

Buckhead's pioneer settler, Henry Irby, died February 20, 1879, aged 72 years. A substantial monument to his memory was erected by a son, J. F. Irby, in the Sardis Methodist Churchyard on Power's Ferry Road.[28] Two years before his death, in 1877, Irby sold the whole of Land Lot 99 to his son-in-law, R. B. Hicks, for $4000.[29]

Time for the Cherokee Indians to remain in Georgia had long been approaching its end. In 1838 it ran out. The United States government, by the terms of its agreement thirty-six years before, in 1802 and supported by the Treaty of New Echota in 1835, girded for action.

A couple of months before General Winfield Scott was sent, on April 6, to forcibly remove the Indians,[30] Colonel James M. Calhoun, of the De Kalb Volunteer Cavalry Company, made a survey of conditions in the Cherokee Country and reported his conclusions to the Governor.

"Decatur De Kalb County, Ga., Feb. 20th, 1838

His excellency, G. R. Gilmer,

I saw Doct. Davidson today, who informed me that you wished me to write you the news from the Cherokee Country concerning the Indians, etc. I attended Cass Court last week & while there I made it my business to enquire a great deal about the conduct of the Indians, etc. & intended to write to you.

From the enquires I made, it appears that the people generally in that Country do not apprehend that there will be any hostilities. They seem to be pretty generally, so far as I could ascertain, of opinion that the Indians would leave without doing any mischief of consequence. Some think that perhaps a few desperate characters may revenge themselves upon some of the whites with whom they are unfriendly.

For my own part, (juding from the Indian character & their previous conduct) I am afraid that the people in the Cherokee Country, have too much confidence in the Indians. I cannot see that the citizens there are making any preparations whatever to defend themselves—except the companies, under the act of the last Legislature. They should bear in mind the condition of the white citizens in the Creek nation—at the time of the breaking out of hostilities there. If hostilities should break out there, the same results would be experienced that were in the Creek Country.

The citizens ought to make preparation, even if there be no danger. They have a direct interest in the preservation of their lives and property, and if difficulties should ensue, they will find it would have been preferable to have relied more on their own action, and not so much upon any immediate benefit to be derived from the military. Because they are more interested & their action would have been quicker.

If no previous preparation be made by the citizens themselves & hostilities should commence—the consequence would be an abandonment of the Country—at least for a time, which would give the enemy time to embody and do mischief—as the whole country would be left in their possession except where the soldiers might be stationed. For it is natural to expect that the citizen would not remain and fight & leave his wife, children & property unprotected, to be massacred. The ties of nature & of interest would suggest that he should first put his family at least out of danger.

It has been my opinion that though hostilities are not expected—and are not probable, that it would be a prudent course in some of the Counties, having a dense Indian population, for the citizens to prepare forts at the villages, for the safety of their families, which could be guarded by a sufficient number while the balance of the citizens, with the assistance of the soldiers—could apprehend the enemy.

The act of the last session I am afraid, will have a bad effect, & I was so inclined to think at its passage. There is no doubt but what there are numbers of trifling individuals in that country, that would almost excite hostilities, in order to be mustered in to the service of the state, etc. They would at least put the country in a state of alarm and commotion—by endeavoring to excite the fears of the people. Whereas as regards the protection of the Country they would be of no more benefit, when organized into companies & mustered into service, than to act upon the principle of self defence, as a body of citizens—as all people are bound to do when they are directly invaded and attacked at their own homes.

There seems to be no hostile preparations among the Indians that can be discovered. I saw a number of them at work on the Western & Atlantic Railroad. It is said they make very good hands at work. Those who are at work on the Road are making considerable progress. I am delighted with Cass County. You ought if you can spare time to visit the up Country in the summer. I think you would be very much pleased.

Yours with very great respect & esteem,

JAMES M. CALHOUN"[31]

Colonel Calhoun's forebodings relative to the Cherokee removal did not materialize. Although the winter and spring of 1838 was an uneasy time in the Cherokee Country, the removal was accomplished with little or no bloodshed.

On May 24, 1838, Georgia officially took possession of the Cherokee Country. General Scott's United States Army troops were assisted in their work by two Georgia regiments under the command of General Charles Floyd. In small detachments the soldiers scoured the country, making prisoners of the Indians, one family after another. They were gathered into collection camps or removal forts.[32] These were: Fort Scudder, on Frogtown Creek, north of Dahlonega, Lumpkin County; Fort Gilmer, near Ellijay, Gilmer County; Fort Coosouwatee, Murray County; Fort Talking-rock, near Jasper, Pickens County; Fort Bluffington, near Canton, Cherokee County.[33]

By June 3, the major part of the work was finished, and the Indians were taken to Ross' Landing in Tennessee and from thence to the Indian territory in Arkansas, under military escort.[34]

In all, approximately 15,000 Indians were removed from Georgia in 1838. The deportation, under General Scott, was made as humanely as possible under the circumstances. Even so, more than 4000 died en route, many from sickness, induced by hardships encountered on the way; others simply of broken hearts. Certainly the exodus was bathed in the tears of pathos. Who of us who now live in this most beautiful of countries can doubt that the Indians pined away and perished because they could not endure being torn from their native hills and valleys?[35]

The majority of the deportees reached the appointed station west of the Mississippi, where their descendants live today. Some made their way back east to western North Carolina, where, in the shadows of the Great Smokies, they joined some of their unmolested brethren in that state. There, in the vicinity of Cherokee and Birdtown, close to the Tennessee line, approximately 3000 in number, live the Eastern Cherokees. They are the sole legatees in the East of a domain that was once, in extent, an empire.

We of today can thank the Cherokees for the heritage of a beautiful name. It has found expression locally in Cherokee Avenue and Cherokee Place, in the Grant Park section; Cherokee Road, in Peachtree Heights Park, and in the designation of a North Side telephone exchange. Prior to the War Between the States, what is now Edgewood Avenue from Peachtree to Pryor and Exchange Place from Pryor to Ivy, was called Cherokee Street.[36]

All in all, 1838 was a bad year for Indians. On January 26, Osceola, Chief of the Seminoles, died a prisoner at Fort Moultrie. Black Hawk, Chief of the Sacs and Foxes, passed away on October 3, in Iowa.[37]

NOTES—CHAPTER 16

[1] James Houstoun Johnston, *Western and Atlantic Railroad of the State of Georgia* (Atlanta, 1931), 24. Hereafter cited as Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.*

[2] Conclusion of the present writer.

[3] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 175.

[4] Letter quoted in full later in this chapter.

[5] DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 175.

[6] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 284.

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 189.

[9] *Ibid.,* 189-190.

[10] Sarah Huff, "Boy Who Outran a Train", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 25, 1934.

[11] Miss Sarah Huff to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Mar. 10, 1932.

[12] Knight, *Georgia and Georgians,* II, 651.

[13] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1838, Book A.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 192.

[16] *Cf.* Stephens Mitchell, "The Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *A.H.B.,* VII (June 1933), 35.

[17] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321; "Garrett's Necrology".

[18] Quoted, Knight, *Landmarks,* II, 247-248.

[19] Felton, *Country Life in Georgia,* 69.

[20] *Ga. Laws,* 1838, p. 10.

[21] This deed was not recorded until Mar. 10, 1891 (Book U-3, p. 217). The original was probably destroyed in the court house fire of 1842.

[22] "Garrett's Necrology".

[23] *Atlanta Journal,* Oct. 19, 1948.

[24] The present approximate boundaries of Land Lot 99 of the 17th District are: North, Shadowlawn Ave.; south, Pharr Rd.; east, a north and south line intersecting East Pace's Ferry Rd., about 600 feet east of Peachtree Rd.; west, a north and south line intersecting W. Pace's Ferry Rd., at Andrew's Dr.

[25] Miss Jane Donaldson to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Nov 5, 1930; 32 *Ga. Reports,* 496. The earliest record the present writer has been able to find, wherein the name "Buckhead" appears is an Act of the Legislature, dated Dec. 22, 1840, designating the "house of Henry Irby, at the place known as Buckhead", as an election district. Irby's name is incorrectly printed in the *Act* as "Yearby". The U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850, designates the 722nd Militia District as "Buckhead District".

[26] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[27] Record of Postmasters, Fulton.

[28] "Garrett's Necrology".

[29] Record in the office of Gordon F. Mitchell, attorney, Atlanta.

[30] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 105.

[31] Original letter on file, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta. Quoted, Franklin M. Garrett, "De Kalb County During the Cherokee Troubles", *A.H.B.,* IX (Nov. 1936), 24.

[32] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 58.

[33] Temple, *Cobb County,* 516.

[34] Marlin, *Cherokee County,* 58.

[35] Eugene M. Mitchell, "The Indians of Georgia", *A.H.B.,* XI (Sept. 1937), 29.

[36] Williams' *Atlanta City Directory,* 1859, p. 16.

[37] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 105-106.

CHAPTER 17

1839

DURING the summer of 1839 a young man of 27, even then upon the road to distinction, was traveling through De Kalb County with a companion, C. C. Hammock. The young man was Alexander Hamilton Stephens. Stopping at the southeastern terminus of the Western & Atlantic Railroad, he stood apart from others who may have been present and, gazing into the distance, became silent in contemplation. His companion, noticing this, asked, "Why such interest?" His answer was, "I was just thinking what a magnificent inland city will at no distant date be built here."[1]

Indeed Stephens had been and continued to be a staunch advocate of the W. & A. He lived to see his prophecy realized, and to die, forty-four years later, the duly elected resident of the Governor's Mansion at Peachtree and Cain streets in Atlanta. His companion of the summer of 1839, Cicero C. Hammock, was to serve as mayor of Atlanta in 1873, 1875 and 1876.

By 1839 trains of the Georgia Railroad were running as far as Greensboro and averaging about twelve miles per hour. One schedule called for an Augusta departure time of 6 P.M. with arrival in Greensboro, a distance of 93 miles, at 1 A.M.[2]

Night running in these early days, without benefit of headlights, was dangerous in spite of the slow speeds attained. One rainy night, the Augusta-Greensboro evening run came to an untimely end. A washout had occurred which the engineer could not see. In the ensuing wreck two men were killed, causing a discontinuance of night trains for a time. The press, in commenting upon this wreck, proffered the advice that "night was intended for sleeping, not for traveling."[3]

Meanwhile progress on the Western & Atlantic between the southern terminus and the Etowah River was slow, steady and somewhat unruly, judging from the following letter published in the *Southern Recorder,* April 23, 1839.[4]

"Marietta, April 15, 1839.

Messrs. Grieve & Orme:

Gentlemen:—It may be interesting to some of your readers to be informed of a horrid murder committed in this county on the night of the 6th inst., on the road leading from Marietta to Montgomery's ferry on the Chattahoochee river; the circumstances are as follows: Twenty-one Irish workmen from Savannah, going to Allatoony (*sic*) with their carts and plunder, to work on the Railroad, they struck camp near the house of a Mr. Brumley, and about 10 o'clock went to rest, and at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning, were awakened by the fire of a gun, and next followed about seventy of the Irishmen who were engaged with Mr. Thomas on the Railroad, near the place where they encamped, with picks, spades, knives and sticks, killed two of the females dead on the spot, and severely wounded eight more, and did not stop at that, they next broke open their trunks, and plundered them of everything valuable. On the next day the citizens raised in arms and went and arrested sixty-four of the supposed murderers, and thirty-four of that number were identified to be the murdering clan and committed to jail to await their trial. If you should think any part of this will be interesting, it is at your service."

The letter was unsigned. It should not be inferred from this account that all of the many Irishmen who emigrated to this section to work on the railroads as pick and shovel men, teamsters and stone masons, were such desperate characters. Not a few of them bought land in and around Atlanta and settled down to become law abiding and useful citizens.

During the fall of 1839 the Monroe Railroad opened for bids, the construction of an embankment for future use in carrying its track across the low ground between the present north end of the Terminal Station and its proposed junction with the W. & A. at what is now Foundry Street. Its main line was building toward Terminus and was then in the neighborhood of Griffin.

The successful bidder for this piece of earthwork was a youth of twenty-one, John J. Thrasher, known far and wide in later years as "Cousin John". He was then a resident of Newton County, having been born there in 1818.[5]

On April 24, 1871, a number of gentlemen assembled in the Kimball House to organize a society for perpetuating the incidents and early history connected with Atlanta. At this time the Atlanta Pioneer and Historic Society was formally organized. Among the statements made by those present, was the following by John J. Thrasher:

"When I arrived in this place, in 1839, the country was entirely covered by forest. There was but one house here at that time and that stood where the old post office was formerly located; it was built of logs and was occupied by an old woman and her daughter about 16 years of age.[6] I found a man also, named Thurman, living in the country nearby.[7] I went to work building and fixing up, and built a store.[8] First one moved in from the country and then another until we had a right smart little town. The people around here were, very poor. There were a great many of the women wore no shoes at all. We had dirt floors to our houses. There was a man named Johnson with me in the store, and the firm was Johnson & Thrasher.[9] That was the only store in the place at that time."[10]

At the time of Thrasher's arrival, the nearest settlement or stagecoach station was at White Hall, at what is now West End. This name was sometimes used to designate the terminus of the railroad. In a report of Joel Crawford, Chairman of the Western & Atlantic Railroad Commissioners, dated November 17, 1839, concerning the general progress of the road, he states that the engineering department had advanced to the point where the road was ready for laying timbers and iron "on that division of the road extending from its eastern terminus, near White Hall in De Kalb Couny, to a few miles west of the Etowah River."[11]

In 1897, two years before his death, John J. Thrasher was interviewed by the Atlanta *Constitution* relative to his early experiences at The Terminus. The interview brought forth interesting information about the building of the Monroe embankment, and for good measure, an account of the first social function and the first labor trouble in the community. Extracts from Thrasher's reminiscences follow:

"I was building the Monroe embankment. My foreman was a man named Mulligan. You might suspect from his name that he was Irish. He was a good workman. I got him from the State road because he had had experience in railroad work, and I needed such a man to look after my laborers. Mulligan was a married man, and so were others of my laborers,—the most of whom lived in the neighborhood of the present Presbyterian church.[12] These shacks were rude cabins made from roughly sawed timber. All of them had dirt floors. There was not a plank floor among them all.

"Mrs. Mulligan heard that the shacks were not floored with boards and she refused to move down here with her husband unless her cabin was floored with planks. She was the foreman's wife, and she felt that she was entitled to something better than a dirt floor. Mulligan would not stay with me unless his wife moved down, and so there was nothing for me to do but to buy the lumber and put a wooden floor in the Mulligan shack; and so I had to go out to Collier's Mill for the material. Well, I bought a load or two of puncheon, and laid the best floor I could for Mrs. Mulligan. Her husband thought it would please her, and she came down.

"No sooner was she fairly installed in her new home than she announced that she would give a ball, and the wives of all the other men who were working on the railroad were invited, and so were every other man's wife.

"The first society of Atlanta was there, and it was a swell affair, or we thought it was. Mrs. Mulligan was mistress of ceremonies, and she said that I would have to dance the first set with her. I had on a pair of rough high-topped boots, but that gave Mrs. Mulligan no concern. She said that it did not matter at all, at all. We circled around a few times, and the heel of one of my boots got caught in the floor, and the heel came off. I finished the dance in a hippity-hop sort of fashion, but, as they say now-a-days, everything went then. It was a creme de la creme affair, and the function established Mrs. Mulligan as the leader of the four hundred. She was quite a fine looking woman of strong physique, and if anybody had questioned her leadership she could have established her claim to the championship as well as to the leadership.

"But you know how women are about things. If one has something her neighbor wants it too. Well, sir, the day after the ball a delegation of the men came to me, and announced that their wives wanted plank floors in their shacks, and they declared that if I didn't put them in the houses every blessed man of them would quit work.

"I had to send out to Collier's Mill and get a good many loads of puncheons to floor the other shacks. That is the history of the first social function that ever occurred in Atlanta (then Terminus) after the Indians left this county. . . . The smart set has changed a good deal in the years which have elapsed since Mrs. Mulligan's ball, but I bet that they never enjoyed a dance more than that first one was enjoyed."[13]

While engaged upon his Monroe embankment contract, Thrasher did occasionally long for the social contacts which a more stable society might offer. So on Saturday afternoons he would don his green broadcloth suit with brass buttons, and mounting his fast horse, John Tyler, would ride to Decatur to spend the night at Dr. Thompson's Hotel.[14] "Cousin John" was a bachelor then. It was not until February 20, 1844, that he was married to Margaret B. Scaife, a belle of old Poolesville, by Rev. Robert W. Steel.[15]

But Thrasher could afford some extra expense. His contract was paying well. He said so himself:

> "I made money so fast that I told my partner Johnson, I was going to close out. Why one day six niggers did enough work to make me $50. clear. That seemed to me to be making money too fast. They were paying us part cash, and part stock in the company. So I took my stock and went down to

McDonough, where I traded it off for goods, and all sorts of things, including a gold watch and a carriage. I came back and opened up my store, where the Presbyterian church now is, and things went on finely with me and I made money right along.[16]

"About the first strike that ever occurred here, I was working about 25 white men and perhaps as many young negroes. The negroes drove the carts. The white men I paid $16 a month, and they boarded themselves. It was hard work, I confess. One morning I blew the horn, they came marching up and walked right by me, calling out that they would not go to work unless they got more wages. I let them go, but I was in trouble. The negroes could not do much but drive the mules. I sat down in front of the store, and smoked and thought, for I was in trouble sure enough. While I was sitting there a preacher rode up and asked me if *Mr.* Thrasher lived there. I told him that *Mr.* Thrasher lived about 35 miles from there.[17] He insisted that he had been told that *John* Thrasher lived at Terminus. 'Oh, if you want to see *John* Thrasher, that is me,' I replied.

"That preacher wanted to know if I would hire 25 negro men. That was exactly what I wanted, and I struck a trade with him just as soon as he got down off of his horse, and I told my cook to get up the best dinner she could. I gave him $16 a month for his negroes, and boarded them, and he brought them in to me that night. That was the beginning and end of the first labor strike that ever was known here."[18]

Thrasher and his partner Johnson received $25,000 for grading the embankment,—Thrasher's net share was $10,000 after he paid all claims, debts, etc.[19] The exact date upon which the Monroe embankment was finished is not of record. Work probably continued through 1840 and possibly into early 1841.

It remains, however, the oldest man-made construction in downtown Atlanta; it extends from the north end of the Terminal Station in a northerly direction just east of the gas storage tanks, forms a junction with the W. & A. (N. C. & St. L.) tracks at Foundry Street. The embankment forms the western base of the downtown railroad triangle and is now used primarily for the switching of passenger trains between the Union and Terminal Stations.

Despite the feverish railroad-building activities of the 1830's, travel was still exceeding slow by the end of the decade. In the spring of 1839, Walter Walcott removed with his family from Michigan to Decatur. His route was through Detroit to Cleveland, Ohio; then across the state to Portsmouth by canal; thence by river to the mouth of the Tennessee River. Then up the Tennessee to Gunter's Landing, and to Decatur by wagon. The travel time was five weeks.[21] The same journey can be made today in a few hours by air, and in less than twenty-four hours by fast train.

Much has been said and written indicating great antipathy upon the part of the citizens of Decatur during the 1830's to railroad enterprises in general and to the W. & A. and Georgia railroads in particular. Indeed, it has been alleged that they evinced a firm determination to let neither road approach the town, with their attendant noise and smoke.

There is no basis in fact for charging our neighbors *per se* with this seeming lack of the spirit of progress, although some citizens probably looked askance at the innovation. No great work of internal improvement has ever evoked unanimous approbation. The truth is that some sentiment existed for and some against, the coming of the railroad.

A daughter of Dr. Chapman Powell, wife of Dr. Fielding T. Powell, a cousin of the former, reminiscing in 1912, at the age of 83, said:

"My father was a member of the Georgia Legislature in 1836 and heard Alexander H. Stephens make his maiden speech before that body. Col. James Calhoun, of Decatur, was also a member at the time when the bill for locating the terminus of the Georgia road came up.[22] My father, with sound judgment and superior foresight as to the advantages of a town in having this railroad terminus there, advocated its location at Decatur—then our home.

"Col. Calhoun opposed him in this, which opposition was the general sentiment of the residents of Decatur. Their idea was that a railroad near a town would be a nuisance, therefore a detriment. Col. Calhoun, in his opposing speech, said to my father: 'The terminus of that railroad will never be any more than an eating house.' To this father retorted: 'True, and you will see the time when it will eat up Decatur.' "[23]

An anonymous citizen of Decatur, writing to the Editor of the *Southern Recorder* under date of July 24, 1839, made a long and impassioned plea for an extension of the W. & A. terminus in Land Lot 78, to Decatur. The first paragraph of the letter indicates its tenor:

"Mr. Editor:—I must ask the use of your columns to make a few suggestions in regard to the propriety of extending the South-eastern end of the Western and Atlantic Railroad from its present terminus, to the town of Decatur, in De Kalb County. And here I will premise, that if this measure will interfere with the true interest and policy of the State, of any particular section, or of any Railroad company interest, then I would be silent on the subject. But so far from this, it can be easily illustrated, that at least the interest of the State and of the Georgia Railroad, would be particularly promoted by it, and no disadvantage whatever could accrue to the Monroe Railroad. If then the facts I have assumed be true, is it not highly improper that the terminus of this Road should be suffered to remain where it is, which most unquestionably would have the effect, from its vicinity to the town of Decatur, to destroy this town altogether. The citizens of Decatur who own property there, have purchased and improved it at an enormous expense, and now I appeal to every candid mind if it would not be an act of the grossest injustice, thus to inflict such an injury on those citizens, and to destroy one of the most flourishing villages in Georgia, when the same could be prevented in a manner so far from doing any interest any injury, that the interest of the State could be promoted by it. . . ."[24]

Insofar as the W. & A. was concerned, the argument between Dr. Powell and Col. Calhoun proved to be academic, and the letter of the anonymous citizen, unavailing. Decatur, as a terminal, was never considered seriously by the surveyors of the W. & A., nor is the town mentioned in either of the legislative acts authorizing construction of the railroad. The terminus remained in Land Lot 78 of the 14th District until it was extended eastward a short distance to Land Lot 77 in 1842.

The relation of the Georgia Railroad to Decatur is succinctly set forth by Miss Meta Barker, well-known Atlanta educator and historian:[25]

"When the Georgia Railroad was completed, at last, through the eastern part of De Kalb County to Atlanta in 1845, the corporate limits of Decatur extended only a short distance in any direction from the courthouse square.

To allow the track to run near the edge of the town, a quarter of a mile or so from the courthouse was obviously the only plan with 'rhyme or reason' to recommend it—the usual plan adopted by towns that preceded the age of steam transportation. From this circumstance arose, not improbably, a half-truth that took on all the proverbial color and blossomed into the legend that Decatur put to rout the iron horses upon their concerted invasion of De Kalb County more than a century ago."

The present writer agrees with this conclusion, and offers the additional thought that the intention of the Georgia Railroad was to meet the terminus of the W. & A. wherever it might be located, and not to stop six miles short of a junction.

During 1839, Charles Murphey, the rising young Decatur barrister, and Hastings D. Palmer, the leading merchant of Cross Keys, joined Meredith Collier as De Kalb's delegation in the lower branch of the State Legislature.[26]

The De Kalb grand jury for the March term, 1839, took occasion, in its presentments, to scuttle a rumor:

". . . As no cause has been reported to this body by any of its members during this term against the laws and good order of this community we receive it as evidence that a favorable change has taken place with regard to the morals of our county. Therefore we congratulate our fellow citizens on the flattering prospects of an improvement in our moral condition generally. Therefore from the above the public can be able to judge whether the report that has gone forth to the world in the public prints relative to the great amount of ardent Spirits consumed in our County is entitled to sufficient credit to be believed. . . .

Robert Jones, Foreman

James W. Givens
John N. Bellenger
Malcolm McLeod
Edwin Plaster
John G. Parker
William Johnston
Stephen Martin
John Hardman
Littleton Jackson
Francis Ward
John McDaniel

John Evans
D. D. Anderson
James Caldwell
Shadrack Farmer
Stephen Terry
William Terry
John W. McBee
Azmon R. Alman
Lawrence S. Morgan
Joseph Walker
Thomas Akins"[27]

The succeeding grand jury, reporting for the September term offered the following rather casual comment anent roads and streets:

". . . We find our roads in tolerable order in some part of our County, although we recommend them to be attended to. We also recommend the commissioners of the incorporation of the Town of Decatur to have the Publick Square and streets put in good order, for we find them in bad order at this time.

John Jennings, Foreman."[28]

The old Indian Creek Baptist Church south of Clarkston had its beginnings in 1839. The Yellow River Association at its annual meeting in 1838, adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the institutions of the day called benevolent societies, the Convention, Tract Society, Bible Society, Temperance Society, Abolition Society, Sunday School Union, Theological Seminary, and other institutions tributary to the missionary plan, now existing in the United States, are unscriptural, and that we as an Association will not correspond with any Association that is united with them. Nor will we hold in our Union or fellowship, any church that is connected with them."[29]

The adoption of the resolution caused several churches to withdraw from the Association. The remaining churches individually adopted similar resolutions, among these the Hardman Church. A small group of its members thereupon left the church. Led by Joseph Walker, a strong, rugged character, this group of seceders, on December 7, 1839 met, and organized a new church, calling it the Decatur Baptist Church. Its constitution was approved by a presbytery composed of Rev. Luke Robinson, Rev. T. U. Wilkes, Rev. W. A. Callaway and Licentiate Lewis Towers. The charter members were Joseph and Jane Walker, William and Laura Towers, Deborah, Margaret and Mary Burdett, Sam Samuel, Seaborn Jones, and Eliza and Sarah Crowley. Their first pastor was Rev. W. A. Callaway, with Joseph Walker as the first Clerk.[30]

The new church thereupon adopted the following resolution: "Now, be it Known that we as a body are not connected with any of the societies above named (in the resolution of the Association) and as for the Abolition Society, we spurn the thought of any Southern person, or body of persons, being such. But as for the balance of the societies, we contend that every person is at liberty to patronize them, and is not a matter that involves Fellowship. That if a brother sees fit to join a temperance or missionary society, no other brother should interfere."[31]

The church began regular services and activities, February 22, 1840, in the Presbyterian Church, the use of which had apparently been granted. On November 13, 1841, the brethren voted to remove the organization to Ensibia Academy, three miles to the east of Decatur on the Rock Bridge Road, and on January 8, 1842, its name was changed to that of Indian Creek Church. The church building was burned by Federal troops in 1864, and was rebuilt in 1866-67. Joseph Walker continued as clerk until 1877, a tenure of 38 years.[32]

Many De Kalb pioneers rest in the quiet Indian Creek cemetery. Among them are: W. R. Ayers, S. T. Corley, Lemuel Dean, William Doby, Richard H. Eskew, A. C. and John W. Fowler, A. M. Holcombe, W. P. Hudgins, James W. McClain, Mark H. Minor, P. M. Ray, Alexander Vaughn, Joseph Walker, Capt. James White, and Benjamin Woodson.[33]

De Kalb County lost a post office and a pioneer citizen to Cobb County on April 16, 1839, when Pace's Ferry Post Office, Hardy Pace, Postmaster, both moved across the Chattahoochee to the present site of Vinings in order to be on the W. & A. Railroad, then abuilding through that section. The name of the office was changed to Cross Roads.[34] Later the settlement was given the name Vinings Station for one of the engineers who built the railroad.[35] The post office became Vinings Station on October 2, 1868, with Tillman G. McAfee as first postmaster. In 1904 the name was changed to Vinings, its present designation.[36] The date upon which Pace's Ferry Post Office was established in De Kalb County is not of record although it was probably in the middle 1830's.

The founder of one of the oldest families in the Atlanta area died January 23, 1839, at the remarkable age of 107. *The Southern Christian Advocate* (Methodist), in its issue of February 22, 1839, informs us of

Another Revolutionary Soldier Fallen

Departed this life on Wednesday the 23rd ult. at the house of Rev. John M. Smith in De Kalb County, Georgia, William Suttles, in the 107th year of his age. He was born (I think) in the State of Maryland, and early entered the list of those who, under God, secured to us the freedom and happiness of our happy country and whose names are endeared to the free citizens of favored America. As to the general character of this aged veteran, there is nothing peculiarly striking, more than that he sustained a good name as an honest citizen, and an industrious mechanic. He was a famous gunsmith. His greatest peculiarity was his great age, and his seeing, perhaps, as numerous a progeny as any man of his day. His children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren number about 300 persons. His aged companion still lives, being about 100 years of age, and lives too in the bright prospect of meeting her departed husband, with whom she has lived so long on earth, in a better and more happy country than favored America. . . .

Covington, Ga., Feb. 5, 1839. P. P. Smith."

Mr. Smith was the first-born of William Suttle's youngest child. The old pioneer is probably buried in Mt. Gilead Cemetery at Ben Hill, near which place he died. However his grave is unmarked and he may be one of the sleepers at old Utoy Cemetery. The Suttles family is represented in both cemeteries.[37] Our present accommodating Fulton County tax collector, T. Earl Suttles is one of the numerous local descendants of this Revolutionary soldier.

A goodly number of the pioneers of the thirties left their names upon the land, as did those of the twenties. Some of these designations follow:

Designation	Location	For Family of
Avery Road, SW	Near Lakewood	William Avery
Bryant's District	Southwest Fulton County	William Bryant
Carpenter Avenue	North Fulton County	John Carpenter
Cheshire Bridge Road NE	Northeast Fulton Northwest De Kalb	Hezekiah Cheshire
Chupp Road	Southeast De Kalb	Jacob Chupp
DeFoor Ferry Road	Northwest Fulton	Martin DeFoor
Flower's Road	North De Kalb	John Y. Flowers
Humphries Street, SW	Atlanta	Charner Humphries
Irby Street	Buckhead	Henry Irby
Ivy Street, NE & SE	Atlanta	Hardy Ivy
Latimer Street, NW	Atlanta	Henry B. Latimer
McWilliams Ave., SE	East Atlanta	John McWilliams
Marbut Road	Between Lithonia & Redon	John P. Marbut
Mason Mill Road	Decatur District	Ezekiel Mason
Phillip's District	Southeast De Kalb	James Phillips
Power's Ferry Road	Northwest Fulton	James Power
Williams Street, NW	Atlanta	Ammi Williams
Willis Mill Road	Southwest Fulton	Joseph Willis[38]

As the third decade of the nineteenth century closed there was still no Atlanta. But its site had been selected more or less by chance, and before the close of another decade Atlanta stood as an incorporated city, complete with mayor, council and 2,569 souls who called it home.[39]

NOTES—CHAPTER 17

[1] William S. Irvine, "Terminus and Deanville," *A.H.B.*, XIII (Apr. 1938), 109; Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.*, XX (Jan. 1940), 65.

[2] Dan Magill, "How Georgia's First Railroad Was Built", *Atlanta Journal Magazine*, Feb. 14, 1926; Cumming, *Georgia Railroad*, 36.

[3] Dan Magill, "How Georgia's First Railroad Was Built", *loc. cit.*

[4] Transcribed from the *Southern Recorder* by Wilbur G. Kurtz, Sr., Aug. 23, 1940, and shared by him with the present writer.

[5] "Garrett's Necrology"; Irvine, "Terminus and Deanville", *loc. cit.*, 109.

[6] The house referred to stood on the approximate site of the Ten Pryor Street Building. It had been built a few years before by John Young, of Flowery Branch, a live stock dealer for drovers.

[7] This was Benjamin F. Thurman, who then lived on the road to Nelson's Ferry (Magnolia Street) in Land Lot 83, just west of Land Lot 78, where Thrasher settled.

[8] Approximate present site of Federal Reserve Bank.

[9] Unfortunately Thrasher's identification of Johnson is vague. It has been inferred that the senior partner in the firm was Lochlin Johnson. He and Thrasher owned property jointly in Land Lot 50, near Pine and Peachtree streets, which was acquired by Alexander F. Luckie in 1847. The Messrs. Johnson and Thrasher also owned land in Land Lot 83, of the 14th District. (Statement of Eugene M. Mitchell, Jan. 12, 1936.) It is the present writer's opinion that if Lochlin Johnson was a partner he simply put up the money and left active management of the enterprise to Thrasher. Johnson was much older, and was an established and well-to-do planter in the Panthersville District of De Kalb County.

[10] Hanleiter's *Atlanta City Directory*, 1871, p. 25.

[11] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*, 66-67.

[12] Present site of Federal Reserve Bank.

[13] *Atlanta Constitution*, Aug. 1, 1897.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] Marriage Records, De Kalb County, 1844.

[16] *Atlanta Constitution*, June 24, 1897.

[17] Referring probably to his father, David Thrasher, in Newton County.

[18] *Atlanta Constitution*, June 24, 1897; Irvine, "Terminus and Deanville", *loc. cit.*, 112-113.

[19] Irvine, "Terminus and Deanville", *loc. cit.*, 113.

[20] Omitted.

[21] *De Kalb New Era*, Mar. 10, 1921.

[22] Col. Calhoun did not become a member of the Legislature until 1837. Mrs. Powell probably meant the W. & A. R. R., instead of the Georgia R. R.

[23] Note Book 10, p. 105, personal records of Wlbur G. Kurtz, Sr.

[24] Letter quoted in full, Meta Barker, "How Decatur Escaped the Iron Horse", *A.H.B.*, IX (Nov. 1936), 12-18.

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] Blair, *Official Register*, 1925, p. 321.

[27] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1839, Book A.

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] Candler, *De Kalb County*, 16.

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] "Garrett's Necrology".

[34] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[35] Temple, *Cobb County*, 100.

[36] Record of Postmasters, Cobb.

[37] "Garrett's Necrology".

[38] *Ibid.*

[39] U. S. Census, 1850.

Section V

THE EIGHTEEN-FORTIES

Railroad Operation Begins. Urban Pioneers. Churches. Marthasville and, in 1845, Atlanta

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CHAPTER 18

1840

THE "log cabin and hard cider" campaign of 1840 in behalf of William Henry Harrison and John Tyler for President and Vice-President, bore fruit in Georgia, for "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" carried the State for the Whigs with the large majority of 8,340 votes. Even so the Whig triumph in Georgia was short lived for in the autumn of 1841, Charles J. McDonald, of the Democrats defeated William C. Dawson of the Whigs in the gubernatorial race with about 4,000 majority.[1]

During 1840, also, Samuel F. B. Morse, artist and inventor, received a patent for his telegraph and made the first successful daguerreotype portraits, thus introducing photography, invented in France by L. J. M. Daguerre, to America.[2]

On November 3, 1840, Stephen Harriman Long, the individual primarily responsible for locating and establishing the future site of Atlanta, resigned his position as Chief Engineer of the Western and Atlantic Railroad and left this section to engage in other pursuits. He was succeeded as chief engineer by James S. Williams. Not up to this time and not in fact, for some time to come, was any part of the W. & A. in actual operation.[3]

During his tenure as Chief Engineer, Colonel Long made his headquarters at Marietta. That he had no sanguine hopes for the appreciation of real estate values around the Terminus was revealed when he declined an offer of a half interest in 200 acres on what is now Marietta Street. His declination was phrased to the effect that "the Terminus will be a good location for one tavern, a blacksmith shop, a grocery store, and nothing else." He had simply made the selection of the place where the State Road was to end so as to best serve the Monroe and Georgia railroads, the natural situation of the ground (a confluence of ridges) being suitable for the entrance of the lines from Macon and Augusta.[4] How wrong he was about the future of the Terminus!

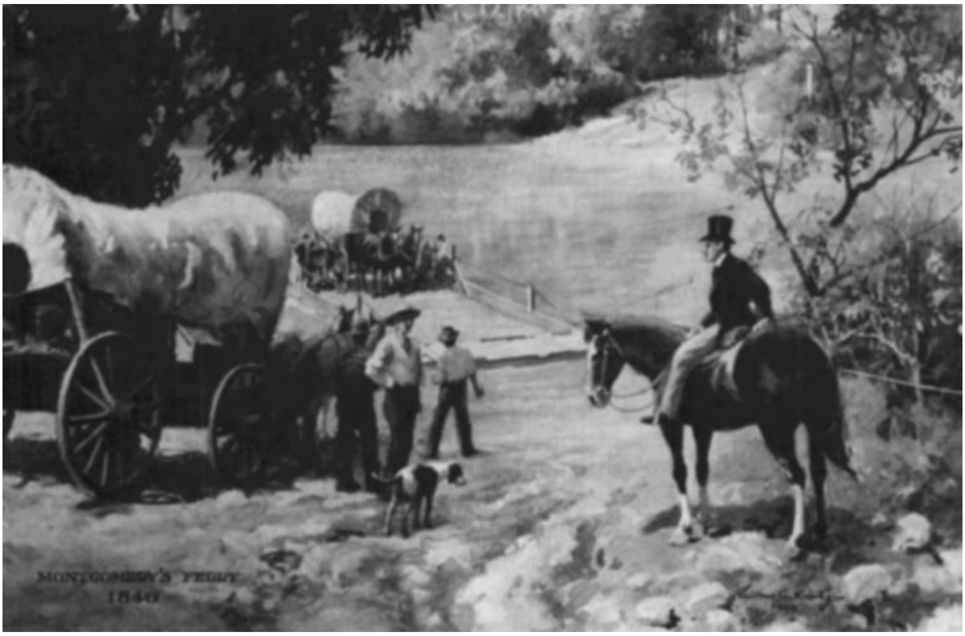
The Monroe Railroad and Banking Company having previously employed John J. Thrasher to build an embankment to connect with the terminus of the W. & A. was, by the fall of 1840, ready to secure a right of way through De Kalb County south of this point. A petition was accordingly filed in the De Kalb Superior Court at its September Term:

"Georgia, De Kalb County } To the honorable Superior Court of said County. The petition of the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company showeth . . . that the said Company is about to construct a Rail Road through the County of De Kalb or a part thereof. Your petitioner therefore prays the appointment of five commissioners, by whom or by a majority of whom the damages may be assessed to those through whose premises the said may pass. . .

J. M. CALHOUN,
Atty. for petitioners."[5]

In response to the above petition the Court ordered:

"That Palmer R. Phillips, County Surveyor, James Diamond, William Jackson, Thomas J. Perkerson, and Adam Poole be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to assess the loss or damage which may be done to the lands . . . to make returns, and that each Commissioner be allowed three dollars per day for each days service except Palmer R. Phillips, County Surveyor, who shall receive four dollars per day for each days service, to be paid by the Company."[6]



(*From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett*)

Montgomery's Ferry, 1840. Across the Chattahoochee River, connecting De Kalb and Cobb Counties. There were no bridges across the river in this section of the country at that time. Present location would be just downstream from waterworks pumping station at Seaboard Railroad Bridge

The land examined by the Commissioners constituted all property through which the Central of Georgia Railroad main line now runs between the present Clayton County line below Hapeville to Land Lot 78 in downtown Atlanta. Two of the Commissioners, Adam Poole and Thomas J. Perkerson, owned land, in 1840, through which the railroad was to pass.

As far as the record is concerned, the land examination suited everyone except Alexander Ratteree. At the March term 1841, he, "being dissatisfied with the assessment of the Commissioners appointed to assess damages occasioned by the extension of the Monroe Rail Road through lots of land Nos. 131, 133 and 135 (of the 14th District) applied for an appeal to a special jury."[7] During the March term 1842, Ratteree was allowed the sum of $350.[8]

Alexander Ratteree, from the early 1830's, had been, and continued to be, for many years, an extensive land owner in the present East Point and College Park sections of the county. The lots enumerated above are all in that section.

He was for a period of nearly sixty years, one of the most litigious citizens of De Kalb, later Fulton County. His name appears frequently as both plaintiff and defendant, in the pages of the Georgia Supreme Court Reports, down to the early nineties.

The old gentleman eventually divested himself of his extensive land holdings, and despite, or possibly because of, his frequent litigation, passed from the earthly scene about the turn of the century in the Fulton County Alms House.[9]

James Diamond, one of the land commissioners for the Monroe Railroad in 1840 was, the same year, elected to the State Senate, representing De Kalb County. He served through 1841.[10] On January 10, 1840, three new County officers took office. They were John Jones, Sheriff, William Betts, Coroner, and Palmer R. Phillips, Surveyor. John Glen and E. B. Reynolds, Clerks of the Superior and Inferior Courts respectively, succeeded themselves.[11]

That the courthouse in Decatur was being subjected to severe and reckless use at this time, was taken note of by the Grand Jury for the March term, 1840.

". . . We have examined our County Jail which is in good order. Our Court House is also in good repair. We would recommend to the Inferior Court the propriety of keeping the Court House closely locked during the night and prevent as far as possible the same being made use of for a dancing room and for disorderly collections in the night.

ZACHARIAH GHOLSTON, Foreman

John Evans
Elijah Bird
John N. Bellinger
Alexander Johnson
Charles Whitlock
John Huey
Robert Biggers
Fanning Brown
Angus Furgerson
John Morris
Lemuel B. Edwards

Edwin G. Collier
James McCurdy
John Kile
Daniel Durham
John Mason
Joseph Walker
William Beauchamp
Moses Murphey
William Betts
John Rainey
Charles Inge"[12]

Little wonder that the edifice burned to the ground, together with practically all of the county records, less than two years later.

The county acquired a new post office on January 17, 1840. It was designated "Hornsby's" and functioned until July 18, 1844, when it was discontinued. Postmasters were Joseph Hornsby and James Blackstock.[13] This office was probably located at the Hornsby settlement a short distance west of East Point, which town was then nonexistent.

The Act of December 22, 1840, which designated "the house of Henry Irby, at the place known as Buck Head," and also "at the place known as Steward's Store," as election districts, provided also for an election district, "at the place known as Panthersville."

The late Judge John D. Humphries, of Atlanta, undertook, in 1939, to ascertain the origin of this interesting place name—still the designation of a De Kalb County Militia District. His efforts evoked the following letter, dated December 20, 1939, from Hon. Scott Candler, Commissioner, Roads and Revenues, De Kalb County.

"Dear Judge:

I have been trying to find out some definite historical fact showing how the Panthersville District received its name. I know how local tradition accounts for the name. There was a family named Johnson[14] living on Blue Creek which flows north into South River. A son of this family lived in or near Decatur. About 1830, this son, his wife, and an infant child were returning to Decatur, when at the point now called Panthersville, they were chased by a panther. Family tradition says that the father urged that the baby be thrown out—the mother insisted on continuing the race with the baby in the wagon.

They reached Decatur. The baby was afterwards Mrs. Jas. J. Winn, and became the mother of Mrs. George Bucher Scott, the Rev. Paul Winn (a missionary to Korea) and Mrs. Kate W. Kirkpatrick, who recently died in Decatur. I have heard this story all my life.

I know of no better explanation of how Panthersville District secured its name.

South of Panthersville District along South River there has always been an extensive swamp—a part of which remains until this day. I imagine as the wild life was driven back from the rest of the territory in the county, an unusual number of panthers took refuge in this swamp.

I wish I could give you historical facts but I am afraid that I cannot.

Yours very truly."[15]

Panthersville District was originally called Jordon's District. In 1828 it became known as Perry's District and, as previously noted, a post office designated Panthersville was established in the district in 1837. The name probably dates from the early or middle 1830's.

Appointment as a Road Commissioner in the pioneer days was not a responsibility to be taken lightly for roads were just as important to the early settlers with their horse-drawn vehicles as to their descendants in automobiles. In January, 1840, the following good men and true were appointed Road Commissioners for their respective districts:

Militia District	Commissioners
524th	Josiah Power, John Bellinger and John Austin.
686th	James W. Reeve, William Johnston and Hastings D. Palmer.
722nd	Britton Sentell, Thomas Farr and Henry Irby.
469th	Spencer B. Crow, James McCurdy and George Elliott.
479th	James Donehoo, Jacob Redwine and James Blackstock.
530th	Thomas J. Perkerson, Charner Humphries and William Willis.
531st	Jonathan B. Wilson, Chapman Powell and John Bryce.
572nd	James Millican, Thomas J. Akin and John Burns.
537th	John Evans, Thomas Atwood and William Meadow.
683rd	James W. Givins, John Swift and William Miller.
487th	Joseph D. McEver, Palmer R. Phillips and George Thomas.
536th	Zachariah R. Jones, John H. Jones and Hugh M. Boyd.
563rd	James Diamond, James R. Henry and Elijah Steward.[16]

De Kalb County lost two good citizens, both named Brown, to the grim reaper in 1840. First to go, on January 9, was Peter Brown, one of the original settlers in what is now the South Bend District of Fulton County. He was born in 1778 and came to De Kalb from Franklin County in the winter of 1822-1823. A farmer and blacksmith, he built the first sawmill on Entrenchment Creek upon the present site of the city sewage disposal plant on that stream. Mr Brown was the father of Killis, Meredith, William T., Joel and Edgefield Brown, all useful citizens of the Atlanta area in their day.[17] Peter Brown is buried in his family cemetery in South Bend District.[18]

The *Southern Recorder* of September 8, 1840, carried the modest obituary of Alfred B. Brown:

> "Died at Standing Peachtree, De Kalb Co., Ga., August 29, 1840, at the house of Col. J. McC. Montgomery, his father-in-law, 26 years of age. Engaged in Engineering Department on the Western & Atlantic Railroad. Member and elder in Presbyterian Church. Columbus *Enquirer* requested to copy."

A flat slab, flush with the ground in the old Montgomery family cemetery near Bolton bears the following inscription:

IN
MEMORY OF
ALFRED B. BROWN
A CIVIL ENGINEER IN THE SERVICE OF
THE STATE OF GEORGIA,
BORN APRIL 1st 1813 DIED AUG. 29th 1840.
THIS TRIBUTE TO HIS VIRTUES
IS ERECTED BY THE ENGINEER
CORPS OF WHICH HE WAS A
WORTHY MEMBER.[19]

Brown's widow, née Rhoda Narcissa Montgomery, was later remarried to Henry G. Dean. She was to become the last of the children of James McC. Montgomery to leave Standing Peachtree—about 1854.[20]

The sixth U. S. census, taken in 1840, gave the country a population of 17,069,453. Only eight and a half percent of the total lived in cities of 8,000 or more inhabitants. Indeed only four cities, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New Orleans could boast of as many as 100,000 souls.[21]

The enumeration of persons in De Kalb County was made by Thomas C. Bolton, a resident, in 1840, of Diamond's District. By way of recapitulation he came up with the following:

White Males	4,314	(Only 126 white males over 60 living in De Kalb County, 916 under 5 years old.)
White Females	4,142	(119 white females over 60, 866 under 5 years old.)
Free Persons of Color:		
Male	4	
Female	2	
Male Slaves	952	(2 over 100 years old.)
Female Slaves	1,052	(3 " " " "
Total Population	10,466[22]	

Compared with the 1830 figures, total 10,042, the gain for the decade looks minuscule. It will be remembered however, that when J. McC. Montgomery made the 1830 enumeration, his territory extended north into the Cherokee Indian country as far as the Etowah River. By 1840 the Indians had departed; the Cherokee country had been organized into counties. Therefore Mr. Bolton's efforts were confined within the boundaries of De Kalb County.

Since Revolutionary soldiers were specifically cited in the census of 1840, it is herewith noted that seven of these patriarchs yet resided in De Kalb. They were:

George Brooks,	age	79
William Copeland,	"	75
John Macomson,	"	84
William Reeve,	"	84
Thomas Roberts,	"	95
Lewis Stowers, Sr.,	"	76
William Terrell,	"	84[23]

The day was fast approaching when living veterans of the American fight for independence would be no more.

NOTES—CHAPTER 18

[1] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 147.

[2] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 108.

[3] Kurtz, "The Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.,* 44; DuBose, "Stephen H. Long", *loc. cit.,* 176.

[4] Extracts from the Personal Recollections of Richard Peters", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Mar. 22, 1936.

[5] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1840, Book A.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] *Ibid.,* 1841.

[8] *Ibid.,* 1842.

[9] Green B. Roberts, "Whitehall Street; How It Was Named", *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 26, 1898.

[10] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, p. 440.

[11] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[12] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1840, Book A.

[13] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[14] The Lochlin Johnson family is probably referred to in this connection.

[15] The only flaw in this interesting tradition relates to chronology. The birth date of Mrs. James J. Winn, as shown on her tombstone in the Decatur Cemetery, is Oct. 16, 1816. She would therefore, have been a 14 year old girl in 1830. De Kalb County was non-existent in 1816. Mrs. Winn's father, Lochlin Johnson, settled in De Kalb about the time of its creation in 1822. Both Johnson and his son-in-law, James J. Winn, were, according to the U. S. Census of 1850, neighbors in the Panthersville District of De Kalb. We are indebted to the late Judge Humphries and to Mr. Candler for bringing this interesting tradition to light.

[16] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 231.

[17] Allen Brown, grandson of Peter, to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Jan. 13, 1932.

[18] "Garrett's Necrology".

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] Anderson, "Montgomery of Standing Peachtree", *loc. cit.,* 41.

[21] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 108.

[22] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1840.

[23] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 19

1841

THE hard times prevailing throughout the United States, beginning in 1837, were felt for some years to come, and by 1841 were the subject of considerable concern in De Kalb County. Economy, particularly in government, was the order of the day. The De Kalb Grand Jury for the March term, 1841, took cognizance in the following language:

> "In approaching anything of a public nature and expressing our opinion thereon, it is under a sense of duty we regret and deplore the embarrassed condition of the Country as concerns our Currency. As concerns the matters of our State affairs we call upon our members in the next legislature to use their efforts and influence to reduce the wages of the members of that body from five to three dollars per day, and while we have further to express our deepest expressions of regret in the frequent unsuccessful attempts to reduce the number of that body, we recommend that their influence be exerted to have biennial instead of annual sessions established.
>
> We recommend that a public meeting be had of the people of our County to consult on and adopt such measures and resolutions as relate to the foregoing subject and would say the fourth of July would be a proper day for such Meeting. . . . We request that our representatives have the office of tax collector and receiver consolidated in our County. . . . We request that these, our presentments, be published in the *Southern Recorder & Federal Union.*"

LODOWICK TUGGLE, Foreman.

Merrell Collier
John Perkerson
John Reid
Christopher Connally
William H. Tanner
Benjamin Thurman
James W. Givens
Dickson Jordan
John McDaniel
William W. White

William Avery
Simeon Williams
William Goldsmith
Samuel Lovejoy
Robert Orr
Jesse L. Williams
Lemuel Dean
Charles W. McGinnis
John L. Evins
John Bird[1]

A meeting was held in Decatur, as suggested by the grand jury, not on July 4, but on September 9. Its primary purpose was to discuss a reduction of the salaries of all public officials in Georgia, including members of the State Legislature.

Merrell Collier moved William Jackson to the chair; Alexander Johnson was appointed Secretary. The meeting resolved "not to support anyone for legislature who is unfriendly to the reduction of all salaries and wages of public or State officers, to a proper medium with the times; also for biennial sessions of the General Assembly of this State."[2]

Hard times finally caught up with the Western and Atlantic Railroad in the latter part of 1841. After four years of surveying and grading, the State had spent nearly two and a half million dollars and not an iron rail had been laid.[3]

Governor Charles J. McDonald, upon taking office late in 1841, found that the state finances were at low ebb. Accordingly, the Legislature, by Act approved December 4, 1841, suspended all work upon the W. & A., except that part of the line extending from the southern terminus to a point two miles beyond the Etowah River—about where Cartersville is now located. This Act repealed the former Act providing for three commissioners, and gave their power to a chief engineer and a disbursing agent.[4]

Former Governor Wilson Lumpkin was appointed Disbursing Agent, effective January 1, 1842, and Charles Fenton Mercer Garnett, for whom Garnett Street was subsequently named, succeeded James S. Williams as Chief Engineer in February, 1842.[5] The Messrs. Lumpkins and Garnett were to sponsor an important change in "The Terminus" during the course of that year.

Meanwhile, the regular and less spectacular business of De Kalb County proceeded in due course. On January 15, 1841, three new Inferior Court Justices took office. They were William Johnston, David D. Anderson and William Hairston. John N. Bellinger and Robert Jones succeeded themselves for another four year term on the same Court.[6]

If railroad building in '41 lagged somewhat, wagon road building was still a lively topic and a spur to enterprise. On September 6 reviewers were appointed "to view and mark out a route for a Road from the Nelson Ferry Road on by Loving Martin's to where the Stage Road intersects the Road from White Hall to Montgomery's Ferry."[7]

On October 1 the following report was handed in to the Inferior Court:

"We the reviewers appointed to view and mark out a route for a Road from Robert Lemon's[8] to intersect the Road at or near the creek between said Lemon's and Meredith Collier's make the following report, viz. We think the route as laid out by said Robert Lemon and used as said Montgomery Ferry Road, for several years past, to be the best and most practical route.

Joel Morton
S. B. Crow
W. Hudson
James McCurdy
Reviewers"[9]

On November 1 a road was authorized ". . . commencing at A. Browning's on Lawrenceville Road and running west so as to intersect the Peachtree Road at or near William's Gin."[10] Andrew Browning, for whom Browning's District was named, lived at the approximate present site of Tucker in De Kalb County. The writer cannot locate William's Gin conclusively, but hazards the opinion that this road followed the general route of the present La Vista Road.

The Grand Jury for the September term, 1841, commented rather caustically relative to county roads:

". . . We present as a grievance the bad state of the bridge across the Peach Tree Creek generally known as Chandler's Bridge and recommend to the proper authorities to have the evil speedily remedied. We also present as a grievance the bad state of the road known as the Nelson Ferry Road, leading by Thrasherville on the road from White Hall to Montgomery's Ferry on the Chattahoochee; also the road from the panther's branch passing by Awtry's Mills to Decatur. We therefore recommend to the proper Authorities to have the above roads forthwith put in good order. . . ."

James Diamond, Foreman.[11]

The above presentments are doubly interesting in that The Terminus is designated as Thrasherville, another unofficial name for the settlement later to become Atlanta. In 1841, however, it was only a way station between White Hall and Montgomery's Ferry. The grand jury had reference, of course, to John J. Thrasher's Monroe embankment settlement around the present site of the Federal Reserve Bank on Marietta Street.

Aside from Irbyville, previously mentioned, De Kalb County secured one other Post Office in 1841. Designated as Log Cabin, it commenced operations January 15 with Nathan Howard as Postmaster. This office, located in the present Phillip's District of De Kalb, was short lived. It was discontinued January 1, 1842.[12]

The population of De Kalb County began to take on a modest cosmopolitan air in the fall of 1841. At the September term of the Superior Court, in Decatur, two native-born Irishmen were naturalized as citizens of the United States. They were Patrick Porter, formerly of County Donegal and Patrick Jordan of County Mayo.[13] Both had come to the county with the railroad.

Patrick Jordan eventually settled in what is now the South Bend District of Fulton County and sired a substantial family, some of whose descendants yet reside in that District. His tombstone, in South Bend Cemetery, between Jonesboro and McDonough roads, is inscribed:

PATRICK JORDAN
Born in County Mayo Ireland
Dec. 25, 1812. Came to America, 1836.
Married Mary Richard in
Philadelphia, Penn., Feb. 1838.
Came to Georgia same year.
Died in Fulton County, Ga.
Feb. 2, 1882.[14]

On the afternoon of Friday, July 16, 1841, Thomas C. Hill, brother of William M. "Uncle Billy" Hill, pioneer merchant of Decatur, was lying asleep in the latter's store, stretched full length upon a counter on his back. He was known as a heavy drinker and may have been sleeping off the effects of over indulgence.

Benjamin Stowers, aged about 50 and member of an old De Kalb family, came into the store, and seeing Hill asleep upon the counter, decided upon a little joke. He placed the back of one hand against the sleeper's head and slapped this hand with the other. Thereupon he turned to walk out of the store. Hill awoke suddenly, and rising up, grabbed an iron weight. He hurled the weight at Stowers, striking him behind the left ear and knocking him down. Stowers expired within five or six minutes.

Witnesses were James Farrel, William M. Hill, James Farris, and James W. Reeve. Hill was indicted for murder, convicted of manslaughter, and sent to the penitentiary at Milledgeville to serve a term of years. Testimony taken on the trial brought forth the information that the "boys" had a habit of calling Hill "Tecumseh" when he was drunk, and that he usually responded by throwing rocks at his tormenters. Probably this practice accounted for his regretably accurate aim that July afternoon of long ago.[15]

After paying his debt to society, Thomas C. Hill moved to Atlanta and followed the trade of tailor for several years, until his death during the 1850's. His wife, who survived him, was Lucinda Ivy, daughter of Hardy Ivy, Atlanta's pioneer.[16]

Prior to the sudden demise of Benjamin Stowers, two other valued citizens of De Kalb passed to the other shore in 1841. The first was an original settler of the county; the other was a comparative newcomer, but representative of a famous old Georgia family. One died in bed; the other accidentally.

Benjamin Chapman was born in 1775, the year prior to the Declaration of Independence, and came to De Kalb from Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1823. Macedonia Baptist, the pioneer church of De Kalb, was organized that year, and Mr. Chapman, being an expert with the broadaxe, was delegated to furnish the sills for the building. These he hewed in the neighboring forest, "snaking" them through the woods to the building site. He served as a Deacon of this church for many years, until his death from pneumonia on January 24, 1841, and is buried in its quiet churchyard.[17]

General Thomas Glascock, the second, was born in Augusta, Georgia, October 21, 1790, son of William Glascock, lawyer and legislator, and grandson of General Thomas Glascock, the first, gallant officer of the Revolutionary War. Thomas, the second, became a successful lawyer; served as a captain of volunteers in the War of 1812, and rose to the rank of brigadier-general under Andrew Jackson during the Seminole troubles of 1817. After serving in both the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Congress, he retired from public life and moved to Decatur. Here he intended to spend the rest of his days in the practice of law, but his hopes were cut short on May 19, 1841, when he was thrown from his horse and killed. Glascock County, organized 1857 in the eastern part of the State, bears the name of this distinguished citizen, whose influence would surely have been felt in De Kalb, and possibly in Atlanta, but for his untimely end.[18]

NOTES—CHAPTER 19

[1] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1841, Book A.

[2] *Southern Recorder,* Sept. 21, 1841.

[3] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Departed Glory of the State Square", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Dec. 1, 1935.

[4] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XX, 69; *Ibid.,* XIX, 287; Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 27-28.

[5] Johnston, *W & A. R. R.,* 28; Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XIX, 287; Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.,* 44.

[6] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[7] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1841, loose note between pages 276 and 277. It is the present writer's belief that Loving Martin lived in the neighborhood of Montgomery's Ferry.

[8] Robert Lemon was a neighbor to Meredith Collier on Peachtree Creek, and was the father of James Lemon, prominent pioneer of De Kalb and later of Cobb County.

[9] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 265.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1841, Book A.

[12] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[13] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1841, Book A.

[14] "Garrett's Necrology".

[15] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Book A, 326-329.

[16] U. S. Census De Kalb County, 1850; "Garrett's Necrology".

[17] *Christian Index,* Mar. 5, 1841; "Garrett's Necrology".

[18] Northern, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia,* II, 120.

CHAPTER 20

1842

AS PARTICULAR years mark turning points in the careers of individuals, so do they mark important developments and changes in the growth of communities. Certain events which transpired in 1842 decided exactly where the center of the future City of Atlanta was to be. It was not destined to remain where Abbott Hall Brisbane, with the approval of Stephen Harriman Long, had located the southern terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad in the fall of 1837.

The question of extending, changing, or approving the location of the W. & A. terminus had been discussed more than once between 1838 and 1842. In the former year a bill was introduced in the state senate providing for the extension of the railroad as far south as Henry County. This proposal was voted down, 44 to 25.[1]

By 1841 argument over the final location became heated, particularly between James S. Williams, chief engineer of the W. & A., and Daniel Griffin, his opposite number for the Monroe Railroad. It will be remembered that the latter road had just paid John J. Thrasher $25,000 for building an embankment for the purpose of carrying its tracks over low ground to the original terminus of the W. & A. A terminal change would serve to nullify this investment. On March 18, 1841, Williams wrote, as follows, to Griffin:

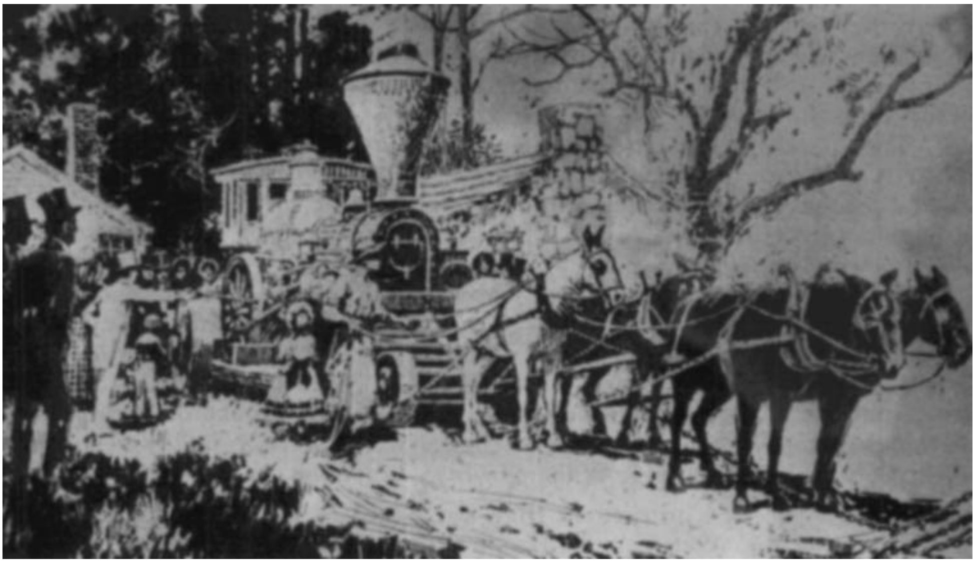
"I have received instructions from our Board of Commissioners to extend the location of the Western and Atlantic Railroad from its present southeastern terminus to a point suitable for the erection of depot, buildings, etc., and to put the work under contract as soon as practicable. In compliance with the resolution of the Board I have repeatedly and carefully examined the ground in the neighborhood of our southeastern terminus.

"As a matter of courtesy to yourself, and in order to obtain all possible information bearing upon this point, I deem it proper to address you and request of you the favor to recite the considerations which influenced you in locating the route of the Monroe Railroad upon the ground which it at present occupies. Apart from the consideration which I readily admit is one of great importance, that the junction of the Monroe and state road is at a different point, there cannot be a doubt of the propriety of selecting ground to the southeast of our present terminus as most suitable for the purpose intended. Indeed without comparison with other localities it is positively and remarkably favorable. At either end of the state road we shall require extensive shops for repairs and construction, both of iron and woodwork. These, with the necessary appurtenant buildings, store houses, offices, etc., cannot I think be advantageously built at any point near our present junction."[2]

Griffin's reaction to this letter is not of record. However, during the early fall of 1841, Williams advertised for bids on the short extension (not the final extension) provided for. Governor McDonald, upon hearing of the matter, wrote to Williams, on October 22, saying:

"I discover that the southeastern terminus has been extended twelve hundred feet, and that you have advertised for proposals for grading. I write to request that a contract for this grading may not be made before the legislature can act upon it. The President of the Monroe Railroad has made communication to me on the subject of the terminus which will be submitted to the legislature for their consideration."[3]

Williams replied on October 26 to the effect that the instructions would be followed. He then wrote to J. Edgar Thomson, chief engineer of the Georgia Railroad, as follows:



(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz. From an Atlanta Constitution roto-reproduction of an original water color drawing by Mr. Kurtz and in collection of Beverly M. DuBose)

Arrival of the locomotive "Florida" at Terminus, 1842. It was hauled to Terminus from Madison, Ga., upon a huge wagon drawn by 16 mules, and made its first run on the Western & Atlantic R.R. to Marietta, Dec. 24, 1842

"A few days since I received a letter from his excellency Governor McDonald requesting me to defer making contracts for grading the extension of this road to the site selected for depot buildings at the southeastern terminus, as he had received a memorial from the president of the Monroe Railroad Company on this subject which he intended to submit to the consideration of the legislature.

"I think it right that you should be informed of the approaching discussion of a subject so interesting to your company."[4]

True to his promise, Governor McDonald, on November 2, 1841, in presenting his message to the legislature, placed the railroad terminal before it for deliberation. He spoke as follows:

"A difficulty has arisen between the Commissioners and the Monroe Railroad and Banking Company in regard to the location of the southeastern terminus of the road. I lay before you the copy of a communication of General Griffin on this subject. This matter should be authoritatively settled by the legislature in a manner required by the public interest, and justice to the companies expected to form a junction with the state road."[5]

The matter of terminal location was soon overshadowed by the larger question of whether or not the entire State Railroad enterprise should be dropped. We have seen that the Act of December 4, 1841, suspended work on the road north of the Etowah River; dissolved the old engineer corps including Chief Engineer Williams' job, and abolished the Board of Commissioners. In lieu of the Commissioners, former Governor Wilson Lumpkin and Charles F. M. Garnett were appointed disbursing agent and chief engineer, respectively.

Lumpkin's duties as disbursing agent began January 1, 1842, while Garnett entered upon his February 7 following. They both embarked diligently upon the terminal location problem which was resolved to their satisfaction, and to Governor McDonald's between February 7 and July 11, 1842.

The new and final location of the southeastern terminus of the Western and Atlantic was placed in the northeast corner of Land Lot 77, the site of the former Union Station, or car shed, between Pryor Street and Central Avenue. It was signed, sealed and delivered on July 11, 1842 by deed from Samuel Mitchell of Pike County, Georgia, owner of the entire land lot since 1822.[6]

Eleven years later, Governor Lumpkin, while on a visit to Atlanta wrote to his daughter. Among other topics he discussed the final location of the W. & A. terminus in 1842. That part of the letter is herewith quoted:[7]

"Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 25, 1853.

Miss Martha Lumpkin
My dear Daughter.

You doubtless have some recollections of my spending the year 1842, in the days of your childhood, in superintending the affairs of our great State Rail Road, known as the Western and Atlantic Railroad. Most of the important incidents attending the labors of my public life I have recorded elsewhere, but there is one particular circumstance connected with that service which I deem especially appropriate that I should communicate to you in a more detailed and particular manner than might be necessary to satisfy the curiosity of all others except yourself. It is an occurrence connected with the terminus of that great road, and the name of the town located at that point,—known by the name of Atlanta.

That location was made after the most careful examination of the contiguous country, and due consideration of all its advantages. It was entirely selected by Charles F. M. Garnett, then Chief Engineer of the State of Georgia, and myself, for the purpose above indicated.

When selected it was in a perfect state of nature[8]—a wild unmolested forest, not a fence or cabin to be seen anywhere in sight of the location, nor did we even know who was the owner of the land which we had selected for these important purposes and now stands the largest inland town in Georgia. Upon inquiry, however, we found the place we had selected belonged to Mr. Samuel Mitchell[9] of Pike County, Georgia. I immediately wrote to Mr. Mitchell, and sent by communication by a trustworthy express informing him of our selection and that if he was the legal owner of the place I wish to purchase of him a few acres for the purpose of erecting the necessary depot buildings, etc., thereon, and further requesting him to visit me at Marietta[10] without delay for the purpose of consummating our object.

Mr. Mitchell being an entire stranger to me, I was wholly unprepared to form an opinion of the gentleman with whom the business of my office led me to have business transactions.

Speculators and sharpers got some intimation of the secret of our selecting, but how I never knew. I knew it was not from Mr. Garnett, or myself, as both duty and prudence influenced us to keep the secret of our selection from others until we could communicate with Mr. Mitchell.

The speculators got to Mr. Mitchell about the same time that my express arrived at his house, and fortunately he was a gentleman of too much intellect and character to have been imposed upon by such fellows, even if he had not received the intelligence which he did from me.

Upon the arrival of Mr. Mitchell at Marietta, my headquarters, I was very much pleased to find him all that could be desired—a sensible, plain, independent, naturalized citizen of Georgia, who had long resided in the State, and by his industry, care and good conduct, had accumulated an ample competence of the good things of this life,—consequently found our business transactions of most pleasant character.

My anticipation of the vast importance of this spot of ground falling far short of that which has already been realized in regard to population, business and expansion of everything connected with the place, I confess caused me to err greatly in not procuring more land than I did from Mr. Mitchell for public purposes.

He said from our first interview that he would receive nothing from the State, and claimed as a right and urged that he should have the honor of making the State a donation of all ground that might be necessary for public purposes free of charge, although I urged him to receive a fair compensation.

Consequently I was forced to take his conveyance free of charge to the State. I therefore took only five acres, what was necessary for present purposes, and I must confess his cleverness and liberality influenced me to take less land than I should have done if he would have suffered me to pay him a fair price for the land. . . ."

Most Affectionately

Your father,
Wilson Lumpkin.

The Mitchell deed bears out the statements about him in the Lumpkin letter. It is an important document in the history of Atlanta and is herewith quoted:

"STATE OF GEORGIA.

Whereas, The General Assembly has by law provided for a great public work known as the Western & Atlantic Railroad, a part of which is so called on lands belonging to me; now, be it known that I, Samuel Mitchell, of the County of Pike and State aforesaid, find in consideration of the desire which I feel for the interest and prosperity of my State aforesaid, and with a desire to promote every improvement which may conduce to the welfare of the people of said State, do, by these presents, concede and grant to the said State for the use purposes of said road or travel of sufficient space or breadth to answer all convenient and necessary purposes of said road as may be designated by the chief engineer of said State over and upon lot of land 77 in the fourteenth district of Henry, now De Kalb county, Georgia, together with the privilege of taking and using timber either stone or gravel lying on said space for the connection of said road; and moreover the said Samuel Mitchell being actuated by the patriotic motives above set forth does by these presents further give, cede, grant and convey unto the aforesaid State the further advantage of five acres of land to be taken out of, reserved and designated from any part of his said tract of land, which may hereafter be chosen and selected by Wilson Lumpkin and C. F. M. Garnett as the most suitable place for the Eastern Terminus of said Western & Atlantic Railroad, for placing thereon the necessary public buildings which may hereafter be required for public purposes at the termination of said road, provided said five acres of land shall be laid out and embraced by lines running at right angles and in compact form, together with all the appurtenances belonging to said five acres of land, and for the perpetual guarantee of the rights and privileges herein conveyed to the State of Georgia the said S. Mitchell doth hereby bind himself, his heirs, and assigns in fee simple forever.

In testimony whereof he hath hereunto set his hand and seal this, 11th day of July, 1842.

Witness:
Wilson Lumpkin.
J. F. McKiner.
C. Tucker, J.P."

S. Mitchell
Register October 11, 1849.[11]

The essential features of Lumpkin's story are borne out in testimony used by the Hopkins Commission and bearing upon an inquiry into the State's title to railroad properties in Land Lot 77 as of 1895. The pamphlets were bound together by the late W. A. Wimbish, of counsel in the litigation and titled "W. & A. Right of Way Case." The witnesses hereafter quoted were all dead in 1895, but their testimony had been taken earlier when they were still alive.

L. P. Grant said under oath, "that the state square and the Western and Atlantic Railroad right of way over land lot No. 77 were laid off in 1842 by F. C. Arms under the direction of C. F. M. Garnett, chief engineer."[12]

C. F. M. Garnett testified: "In the year 1842 I personally directed the location of the southern terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad. Mr. F. C. Arms, my assistant, did locate the square to be occupied by the depot and other buildings on the lands of Samuel Mitchell, and located the right of way for the railroad through said lands."[13]

The testimony of F. C. Arms is substantially the same. He said: ". . . in the year 1842, and under the direction of C. F. M. Garnett, chief engineer, and as his assistant and agent, he made the original final location of the tracks, depot buildings, and right of way for said W. & A. Railroad. That he laid off the right of way through lot No. 77, then the property of Samuel Mitchell and that he surveyed and laid off the said state square."[14]

That Governor McDonald was satisfied with the W. & A. terminal location in Land Lot 77 is attested by the following paragraph in a letter written to Joseph Day, president of the Monroe Railroad, on September 1, 1842:

> ". . . On my way up the line of the Western and Atlantic Railroad I called at the terminus fixed upon by the engineers of the state road, and thoroughly examined that and the place at the junction of the Monroe Road, and my opinion is decidedly in favor of the eligibility of the former location as to the ground. . . ."[15]

Thus the controversy was closed. The spot for the final terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad of the State of Georgia had been selected. And though not the immediate objective at hand, the site of Atlanta followed in its wake.

Even so, one is led to wonder why it was necessary to extend the W. & A. into Land Lot No. 77 at all. Long and Brisbane had determined five years before that Land Lot 78 met every requirement for both a terminus and a junction. The point they selected was on a ridge. There was plenty of space available in Lot 78 and no evidence to indicate that Reuben Cone, the owner, would not sell all that was needed. The Monroe Railroad spent a large sum to make a connection at the original location. The change was not made to accommodate the Georgia Railroad. That line had already been surveyed by L. P. Grant, of its engineer corps, to a point near the present Broad Street bridge. Indeed, to make the Mitchell lot serviceable, two major pieces of construction were required—one, a deep cut had to be excavated at the present Broad Street bridge site, and a considerable fill was necessary in the low swampy area of the State Square.[16]

Whatever the reason, those concerned have left us in the dark except to say that space was needed for depots, buildings, shops, etc. Yet the only buildings the W. & A. erected in Lot 77 were a passenger depot and a two-story frame office building. Its shops and roundhouse were established in Lot 78 under and contiguous to the present Spring Street viaduct. The roundhouse remained on this location until destroyed by fire in October, 1906.[17]

The final terminal location, naturally, did not please everyone. No change has ever had unanimous approval. The Monroe Railroad was greatly inconvenienced and John J. Thrasher was disgusted. The former eventually had to relocate its line, thereby completing the steel triangle in downtown Atlanta. This relocation, completed in 1846 by the Macon and Western, successor to the Monroe Railroad, is now represented by the line of track curving in a northeasterly direction from the Terminal Station and joining the N. C. & St. L. (W. & A.) tracks near the foot of West Alabama Street. The other two sides of the steel triangle are made by the main line of the N. C. & St. L. in, and extending north from, the present Union Station, and the old Monroe embankment, skirting the east side of the gas storage tanks.

Mr. Thrasher reminiscing, in 1871 upon the subject of the W. & A. terminal extension, said:

"That was my ruin. I bought 100 acres of land with the expectation that the Macon road would stop up by the State road shops and when I found that the road was going down here (he was attending a meeting at the Kimball House), I was very much enraged, and sold out my interest in that 100 acres for $4 an acre, although it was about one-half of what I gave for it. I did not think the property would ever be worth anything out there, and I sold out and went to Griffin."[18]

After Samuel Mitchell's deed had been secured for the necessary acreage in Land Lot 77, a survey of town lots and streets and a name for the embryonic settlement were in order. Governor Lumpkin covered both subjects in his letter to daughter Martha in 1853. He said:

"In the next place Mr. Mitchell desired to have a town laid out into lots and streets, and at my request Mr. Arms, then a sub-engineer of the State road, assisted by myself and some others, laid out the first town at what is now called 'Atlanta.'

"This being accomplished, the next thing in order before offering the lots for sale,[19] was to give a name to the town, although destitute of buildings.

"Mr. Mitchell and many others said to me that they wished the town to bear my name—Lumpkin. I promptly and decidedly replied that I would not suffer it to be so. First, because we had already in Georgia a county, as well as a beautiful and flourishing little village called Lumpkin in honor of myself. And secondly, connected as I was with the whole matter, I considered it indelicate and improper, and suggested to Mr. Mitchell that under all circumstances, I thought it would be more proper that the town be called 'Mitchell' than 'Lumpkin,' but advised him to consult with Mr. Garnett and other intelligent gentlemen on the subject.

"After which Mr. Mitchell and Colonel Garnett, in company, informed me that they had named the new town, and that there was to be no more objection or change. The town should be called 'Marthasville' in honor of my youngest daughter.[20]

"I still suggested, however, reasons why it might not be a judicious selection of a name, but they declared that what had been written was written, and they would hear of no change whatever, and thus the first lots in what is now called 'Atlanta' were sold as lying and belonging to the town of Marthasville. . . ."

The exact date upon which the Messrs. Mitchell and Garnett decided upon the name Marthasville appears not of record. We may assume, however, that it was shortly after Mr. Mitchell's gift of land for the W. & A. terminus, probably in July, 1842. While the town was not incorporated as Marthasville until December 23, 1843,[21] it received official recognition by the United States Post Office Department on December 22, 1842. The village became the Post Office of Marthasville on that date, with Frederick C. Arms as Postmaster. He held the office until March 25, 1845.[22]

It is interesting to note that upon the same day Marthasville became a Post Office, Standing Peachtree was discontinued and its Post Office moved across the river into Cobb County. The new office was designated Boltonville, with James A. Collins as Postmaster.[23]

Between July 1842, and the end of the year part of the virgin growth in the northeast corner of Land Lot 77 gave way to man-made improvements. A plank depot, presumably combination passenger and freight, was built, and a two-story frame structure was erected at what is now the approximate intersection of Kimball Way and Wall Street. The plank depot was the depot referred to as the center of the mile circle corporation line, in the subsequent Atlanta Charter of Incorporation, December 29, 1847.[24]

The two-story house, built by engineer Garnett, bore the distinction of being the first of this height to appear upon the local scene. It was originally used as an engineer's office and later as a boarding house for railroad employees and others. Among those who occupied it for a period in the early days was Logan E. Bleckley, later a distinguished lawyer and chief justice of the State Supreme Court. He was then beginning his career, as bookkeeper for the W. & A. R. R.[25]

This weatherboarded building of four rooms and a porch was destined to stand upon two other sites before ending its days. After serving the railroad, probably in the late 1840's or early 1850's, it was removed to the southwest corner of Decatur and Loyd streets (Central Avenue). Then, after a stint at this location it was put on rollers and hauled to the north side of Trinity Avenue just west of Whitehall. Here it was occupied for many years by Mr.

and Mrs. J. E. Kreis who not only lived in the building, but operated within its walls a steam dye works. The venerable landmark closed its career as No. 18 Trinity Avenue in 1916 or 1917.[26]

The answer to the oft repeated question as to why downtown Atlanta streets run in any direction but the four cardinal points of the compass can be found in the Arms survey of 1842, and the subsequent Pryor survey of the remainder of Land Lot 77 in 1846.

Samuel Mitchell employed F. C. Arms to survey the five-acre State Square and stake off seventeen town lots contiguous thereto. A right of way one hundred feet wide was laid out from the line between Lots 77 and 78 at the present Forsyth Street bridge through Lot 77 to the State Square. The Square itself was considerably more of a rectangle, having a width of 270 feet on each side of the center line and being 370 feet in length.[27] Neither was the "Square" square with the world. Its long axis ran northeast and southeast. Its short axis was a prolongation of the center line of the right-of-way in Land Lot 78, which lay in a northwest and southeast direction.[28]

When Arms staked the State Square, the present boundaries of which are Decatur Street on the northwest; Alabama Street, southwest; Pryor Street, northeast, and Central Avenue, southeast, the north line and south line were drawn parallel to the railroad right of way. He then platted streets on these four sides and ran them parallel with the Square.[29]

It all goes back, more or less, to the basic fact that the railroad, when built, closely paralleled the wagon road to Marietta and Montgomery's Ferry. This road, now Marietta Street, runs northwest and southeast before reaching Peachtree Street. The direction of such streets as Forsyth, Broad, Walton, Fairlie, Cone and Luckie in Land Lot 78, are due to the same cause—Marietta Street and the railroad which parallels it. Arms did not create Decatur Street. It was already there as the Decatur wagon and stage road. He merely diverted it somewhat to conform to the northeast boundary line of the Square.[30]

Arms' town lot survey was confined primarily to that portion of Lot 77 lying on the northeast side of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, extending to the southwest only so far as to define Alabama Street, bounding the Square on that side. Lots and streets southwest of the Square were surveyed by Allen W. Pryor, a resident of Pike County and friend of Samuel Mitchell. One of the principal streets through this survey bears his name. Pryor Street was divided by the railroad tracks and the Macon & Western depot until after the War Between the States.[31]

The second oldest landmark in Atlanta, the Monroe embankment being the oldest, is the zero milepost of the W. & A. Railroad. It stands today under the Central Avenue viaduct protected by a cribbing of heavy timbers. This ancient stone post is lettered: "W & A RR, Mile Post 0."[32] Bodwell E. Wells, who placed the post, testified:[33] "I began locating mile posts sometime in the fall of 1850. I ascertained the initial point by measuring and obtaining the center of the south line of the State Square, which was the north line of Loyd Street (Central Avenue), and using a map . . . made by F. C. Arms." These quaint old mileposts can be seen today along the line of the N. C. & St. L. between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

While Samuel Mitchell was having town lots surveyed, chief engineer Garnett was busy with the building of the Western and Atlantic. During 1842 the work ordered by the previous legislature on that part of the road south of the Etowah River was being pushed rapidly along.

Governor McDonald was able to report to the legislature on November 8, 1842, that a sufficient supply of iron had been purchased to lay down tracks on 33 miles of the road. It was expected that the road over that distance would be completed during the month of November. The governor was not disappointed for, on Christmas eve an excursion train, the first to depart from the future railroad center of Atlanta, made a spectacular albeit slow run to Marietta and return.[34]

Prior to the great event it was necessary to bring a piece of motive power and some rolling stock to Marthasville. This could not be accomplished by rail, for as the natives were wont to say at the time, "the railroad didn't start nowhere or go nowhere."

However, the problem was solved in true pioneer fashion. A locomotive, the "Florida," was purchased from the Georgia Railroad upon which it had been in service since December 27, 1837.[35] It was run to the end of that line, then at Madison, Georgia, and there loaded upon a huge wagon drawn by sixteen mules. This strange conveyance, with its unusual load, must have attracted a tremendous amount of interest and wonderment as it made its way slowly up the old Covington Road through Decatur to Marthasville. A single passenger car, built at the state penitentiary in Milledgeville, was also hauled overland to the rail head of the Western & Atlantic.[36] This car, together with the "Florida" and one freight car, also from Milledgeville, made up the consist of Atlanta's first train.

Its running, over the Western and Atlantic to Marietta, was the most thoroughly witnessed event in De Kalb County up to that time. Indeed, few people in north Georgia had ever seen a railroad train or locomotive.

For days before the arrival of the "Florida" from Madison and its departure for Marietta, long lines of farm wagons began to converge upon Marthasville, some having traveled long distances to see the marvel of the century. The surrounding country was nearly depopulated and it is said that every man, woman, Negro and dog in Decatur came over to see the mechanical monster run. Marthasville took on a county fair atmosphere. A large ball had been arranged in Marietta, so as to properly greet the pioneer excursionists and commemorate the event. When departure time came the noise of the locomotive was drowned by the deafening cheers of the spectators and the discharge of firearms, which many of the more exuberant had brought along for the occasion.[37]

The Chattahoochee River bridge represented a hazard insofar as some of the passengers were concerned. They extracted a promise from the engineer to stop the train when it arrived at the bridge so that they might disembark and walk across. He faithfully complied with the requests of the over-timid.[38]

The people of Cobb County also turned out en masse to see the first train over the W. & A. Some of the children became frightened and cried. Many boys looked admiringly upon the locomotive and determined then and there upon future careers as railroad men.[39]

One of the passengers upon this occasion was seven-year-old Rebecca Latimer, later Mrs. W. H. Felton. She has related her impression of the event:[40]

> "It was decided to celebrate the opening of the state road by an excursion to Marietta from Marthasville with a big ball at the latter place and considerable speech-making from the politicians. It was the first adventure of that sort in the Southern States and broke the ice for internal public improvements. My parents were invited by the civil engineers. I was included, a tot of seven years, and I could now paint scenes, if I was an artist, with distinct remembrance of what I saw on that great trip.

"The future Capital of Georgia then had one building, the rough plank depot, with a shed room equipped with a fireplace where all sorts of good liquor could be bought, etc.

"It was a cold day in the late fall and my father and mother, with my small self, reached Thompson's hotel in Decatur, where the excursionists assembled and where a fine dinner was provided. It was a six-mile drive to Marthasville and conveyances were in demand. We were delighted when Maria Gertrude Kyle took a seat in our barouche on my mother's invitation. She was a well-known authoress and poetess in our few Georgia papers. . . . The supper was handed to us as the people sat on benches around the Marietta ball room. Some had syllabub strong with Madeira wine, but I had a wine glass of jelly and a spoon with which to dip it out.

"I soon had enough of the frolic and was put to sleep in a bed, already a foot deep with shawls, capes and bonnets. The joyful folks danced all night. There were relays of fiddlers to keep the tunes going. . . .

"The trip homeward was as dull as the going had been hilarious, but I have always taken satisfaction in the thought that I was a trip passenger on the very first passenger train that ever left the Union Depot in the present city of Atlanta. Judge [Hiram] Warner was on board with his little daughter, now Mrs. Hill. So far as we know she and I are the only two known to be living, and fellow travelers on that momentous occasion when a railroad was venturing into Cherokee Georgia, where the Cherokee Indians had been living only ten years before."[41]

The Christmas excursion of 1842 by no means marked the inauguration of regular train service, passenger or freight, on the W. & A. That did not begin until nearly three years later. There were no connecting roads as yet and the remark that the "road didn't go nowhere" still held good.

That Governor McDonald took a dim view of the Christmas run is indicated by a letter he wrote to Chief Engineer Garnett on December 31, in which he said:

"I have received your letter announcing the first trip of the engine to Marietta. You know you must be careful in your pleasure trips for if you run off you have not the means of reparation at hand."[42]

Again on January 20, 1843, he wrote to Wilson Lumpkin saying that he was opposed to running the train and remarked that he had told Garnett so.[43]

The identity of the builder of the locomotive "Florida" has not been preserved. Tradition handed down by railroad officers and employees indicates that it was a kettle dome, equipped with a single pair of drivers and a four-wheel lead truck. The driving wheels were directly under the cab. At the time of the excursion run its only warning device was a bell which, it is said,[44] was rung constantly, both for its primary purpose and to add to the din of the celebration. The engine was of course a wood burner and carried the customary balloon type stack. There is little doubt but what this first state owned locomotive resembled very closely the Chicago & Northwestern's "Pioneer," first engine to run west of Chicago and preserved by the C. & N.W. as a treasured relic of its pioneer days.

That the "Florida" was still in existence as late as 1860 is brought out in the official report of John H. Flynn, master mechanic of the W. & A., dated September 30 of that year. It was pronounced worn out and unfit for further use. Doubtless it was soon scrapped. Too bad it could not have been preserved, as was the "Pioneer."

Various Atlanta historians of the past, including Clarke, Reed, Martin, and Pioneer Citizens have bestowed the honor of engineer on the occasion of the Marietta excursion upon William F. Adair. None give the source of their information. Thomas G. W. Crusselle, who was present and whose recollections appear in the *Atlanta Constitution* of March 23, 1890, identifies the pioneer engineer as Jim Rustin. Adair was only twenty-one at the time, but many years later, on November 12, 1893, he gave the *Atlanta Constitution* an interview in which he related in interesting detail his experiences as engineer of the first train in over the Georgia Railroad in 1845. He also accounts for his time for several years previous to that, when he was helping to lay the iron on that road, and has nothing to say about his ever having been employed as a locomotive engineer on the W. & A. We shall meet William F. Adair again in this history.

While railroad development and the beginnings of Marthasville held the spotlight in 1842 insofar as the future of De Kalb County was concerned, other events were transpiring too. The year began inauspiciously when, on January 9th, the courthouse at Decatur burned to the ground, together with all of the county records except a few current books and papers being worked upon at home by various county officers.

Wrote Levi Willard, a witness, in 1879:

> "The courthouse, then, as now, stood in the center of the public square, though differently arranged internally; the offices and jury rooms in the second story, and the court room below. This building was burned in 1842, but how set on fire still remains a mystery; whether designedly, as some supposed to destroy the court records, there being many suits in court, or through the carelessness of some card players at a late hour in the night, in one of the vacant rooms above. The roaring of the fire awoke me as I was sleeping in my cottage on the west side of the square. Drawing aside the curtains, I saw volumes of smoke and flame issuing from the upper windows. So rapidly did the flames progress that only a part of the county records could be saved.
>
> What is more awfully frightful than the cry of fire! fire! in the dead of night, especially in a little village that is without a fire engine?
>
> All that could be done was to watch the flying sparks and burning cinders. Favorably, there was but little wind, and no other buildings were injured. The scarcity of long ladders to reach the roofs of exposed houses that night, caused many to supply themselves. J. B. Wilson, Esq., coming up on the square next morning, was surprised to see the destruction of the courthouse, as he and his family slept soundly, and did not hear the cry of fire in the night.
>
> In rebuilding, portico, columns and steps were added to the courthouse."[45]

The Grand Jury for the March term commented, among other things, on the destruction of the courthouse.

> "We deplore with all our fellow Citizens of this County the destruction of our fine Court House by fire which was in a good state of repair . . . we have examined the books of the Court of Ordinary and find in as good condition as circumstances will warrant as all the records of that office was burnt and we recommend that the Inferior Court furnish the proper books of that office so that a proper record may be kept. . . . We further recommend to the proper authorities that that part of the road in the Incorporation of Decatur and joining the Shallowford Road to be put upon such course and ground as to straighten the same and thereby remedy the difficulty of such sudden turn at that place. . . .
>
> JAMES PADEN, Foreman."[46]

The day following the destruction of the courthouse two new county officers took office. They were John W. Fowler, Sheriff, and Joel Morton, Coroner.[47] Morton held office until January 8, 1844, when, so tradition says, he left the county in a huff because a Western and Atlantic train ran over and killed his dog. The late Jackson "Mash" Morton of old Milton County was his son. [48]

John N. Bellinger continued to represent De Kalb in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1842, being joined by John M. Born and Thomas Farr who succeeded Charles Murphey and Hastings D. Palmer. Murphey moved up to the senate, replacing James Diamond.[49] Born lived in the present Lithonia District and was the grandfather of Atlanta's well-known travel agent, John M. Born. Thomas Farr was a planter in the Buckhead District and was originally from Abbeville District, South Carolina. He died in April, 1865, aged 86, and is buried in his family cemetery on the east side of Randall Mill Road between Pace's Ferry Road and Nancy Creek.[50]

The morals of some of the people of De Kalb County and the general financial stringency still prevailing, called forth the following comment from the Grand Jury for the September, 1842, term of the Superior Court:

> ". . . Viewing the amount of bill of indictment which have come before us, although it is with pain that we have to take notice to such an occurence, as having been heretofore not to be complained of. We recommend too that all civil officers be vigilant in the discharge of their duties in the suppression of those petty matters that have to consume the time of grand juries and that of the court, resulting from personal broils. . . .
>
> . . . We are apprised that former grand jurors of our county have before expressed their opinions with regard to the currency and the effects it has produced, and would recommend still as a proper course to pursue that the debtor class be vigilant, industrious and economical, and by pursuing this course those days of plenty which we so much lament will ere long return to our much distressed country. And also would recommend forbearance on the part of those who have it in their power to distress others, so far as is consistent with justice to themselves, their families and fellowmen. . . .
>
> . . . This body have to regret that the repair of the court house of our county has been neglected until this late period, as it has been decided that if done in proper time it will save the great expense of making a new wall. And we now recommend to the Inferior Court forthwith to have the same put under contract for repair on as cheap and convenient a plan as will answer the purpose, and that they have contractors give sufficient bond so that additional trouble and expense not again devolve on this county, as our funds are entirely spent. . . ."

ZACHARIAH GHOLSTON, Foreman.

James W. Givens
Charles D. Parr
John C. Harris
John Collier
Thomas M. Poole
Bois Edison
George Thomas
George Lyon
John L. Bradley
Nathaniel Mangum

Edwin Plaster
Handy Harris
Benjamin Thurman
Hiram H. Embry
Charley Mason
Joseph B. Bond
Malcolm McLeod
Hezekiah Cheshire
Hazel Lovelace[51]

One of the first families to settle permanently in Atlanta, when it was still known as Terminus, was that of Willis Carlisle. Their arrival, in June, 1842, and conditions then existing here were described in an article prepared by Mrs. Carlisle in 1892.[52]

"My father [James White] moved to Georgia in 1828. Later on they moved to Marietta where I was married to Willis Carlisle of that place in 1841. Rev. Josiah Burke, who performed the ceremony, advised my husband to move to Terminus, as he said it would some day be a large place. We took his advice, and one warm day in June, 1842, we started on our journey. . . .

". . . As we, with our wagons and worldly effects, reached our destination, a rude structure which we had procured from Judge [Reuben] Cone, of Decatur, as a dwelling, we found, to our consternation, that it was occupied, and, what was more, by rude people who refused to vacate. There we were, alone, thrust out into the wilderness without shelter, neighbor or friend. It was the only available shelter for miles around, having been built by Mr. John Thrasher and used years before [2 years at most] as a commissary for the old 'Monroe Road' hands. It was situated on Marietta Road, in front of the present First Presbyterian Church [Federal Reserve Bank]. The families occupying it were Irish, employed to grade the road, and seemed to be fixtures. We began looking about us for shelter, until we could notify Judge Cone, and finally found an old dilapidated shanty in which cattle had found refuge, and here we camped. After some delay we obtained possession of shanty number one which, for comfort, was little better than that we had just vacated. But it was to be home; and let not the reader forget we were young, ambitious and quite visionary. We felt that Terminus would not always be a terminus, but the beginning of much grand and glorious future prosperity. . . ."

The young groom was twenty-one and his bride seventeen, at the time of their arrival in Terminus. The one room cabin on Marietta Road served as both dwelling and grocery store, for Willis Carlise lost no time in setting himself up in business. The most colorful daily event in their lives at this time was the daily passing of the stage between Marietta and Decatur, driven by Thomas Shivers.[53]

But a much more exciting and important event for Willis and Sarah Carlisle was about to take place. An addition to the family was on the way. There being no doctor nearer than Decatur or Marietta, Sarah was taken home to Marietta via the stagecoach, for the blessed event. There, on August 17, 1842, was born Julia Carlisle. When she was three weeks old, she and her mother came back to Terminus, by now Marthasville, this time in a covered wagon. Thus it was, that while not actually born in Marthasville, Julia Carlisle did, in point of fact, become its first baby.[54]

In 1845, Willis Carlisle, together with W. P. Anderson purchased the present site of the Ten Pryor Street Building for $200.54. Here, on the northeast corner of Decatur and Pryor streets, and facing Decatur, he opened his second grocery store.[55] Mr. Carlisle continued as a useful citizen of the community until August 10, 1859, when he died of typhoid fever, having previously held the position of chief marshal of Atlanta.[56] His widow, mother of Atlanta's first baby, survived him by nearly forty years, passing away on October 24, 1898. Both are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[57]

Julia Carlisle was married, in 1862, to Walter S. Withers, born in Wales of English parentage in 1833. He subsequently became the founder and proprietor of Withers Foundry and Machine Works in Atlanta. He died in 1907 and his wife in 1919. They too, are buried in Oakland. Her tombstone is inscribed:

JULIA CARLISLE
WITHERS
ATLANTA'S FIRST BABY
BORN AUG. 17, 1842
DIED OCT. 29, 1919

Truly she was privileged to watch Atlanta's growth, from its very beginnings to metropolitan proportions.[58] Of the five children of Walter S. and Julia Carlisle Withers to survive infancy, only two are yet living. They are Mrs. Julia Carlisle Withers Sanders, widow of Rev. Atticus B. Sanders, a Methodist minister, and William Thrower Withers, now retired, of Atlanta. Among the numerous grandchildren of Atlanta's first baby are Gilbert W. Withers, Atlanta realtor and precious stone expert, and Walter Samuel Withers, of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Columbus, Ohio.

As the year 1842 chronicled the birth of Atlanta's first child, so also did it chronicle the death of the county's oldest citizen in point of residence. James McC. Montgomery, of Standing Peachtree, agriculturist, soldier, Justice of the Peace, Tax Receiver, Sheriff, Tax Collector, census taker, Presbyterian church trustee, legislator, ferryman, Indian agent, and postmaster, passed from the land of the living, October 6th, having survived his wife by less than three months.

The late Judge S. B. Hoyt, of Atlanta, upon his arrival in De Kalb County as a boy in 1841, spent six weeks in the home of Major and Mrs. Montgomery. Writing in 1886, he said:[59]

". . . The Major and his whole family were remarkable people . . . I never met a more harmonious and loving couple. He was a Presbyterian and she was a Methodist, and yet there was never a jar. Even in the matter of family worship, he would give out the hymn, and then in deference to her church, the whole family would rise and sing. At her death he received a shock he never recovered from, and died soon after. . . .

". . . For many years travelers would stop over at their house. They never charged a preacher anything for their entertainment, and the poor and needy were never turned away from their door. There were few country houses in Georgia better known than theirs.

"The major was very jolly and good natured, but well posted about the affairs of the country, and very intelligent and well read. He was a strong 'Troup' man and Whig. . . . He was not wealthy but what was called a 'good liver'. There never was a better master. He was what was called in those days a 'negro spoiler'. One of his slaves, named Ransom, was bought by the State for heroically saving the railroad bridge across the river from being burnt. He was set as near free as the law would allow, and the State took care of him to the time of his death a short time ago. He was the only slave the State ever owned.

"The Major and his good wife reared a large family, six sons and three daughters. . . ."

This pioneer couple, together with several of their children, lie buried in the ancient family cemetery in Land Lot No. 230 of the 17th District, a short distance south of the intersection of Moore's Mill Road, DeFoor Ferry

Road and Chattahoochee Avenue, near Bolton. The cemetery enclosure is a crumbling old field stone wall. Between the graves of the Major and his wife rises a stone obelisk, five or six feet in height. It is inscribed:[60]

West

JAMES M. C.
MONTGOMERY,
BORN
MAY 19th, 1770.
DIED
OCT. 6th, 1842.

East

NANCY FARLOW
MONTGOMERY,
BORN
OCT. 7th, 1780.
DIED
JULY 17th, 1842.

North

Their children
rise up and call
them blessed;
and erect this
stone to their
memory.

South

They were lovely
in their lives,
and in their
death they were
not divided.

James and Nancy Montgomery did not live quite long enough to see the running of trains on the Western and Atlantic Railroad abuilding through their land. But for over a century now the whistles of its locomotives have echoed across their quiet graves upon the knoll not far from the right of way they gave.

NOTES—CHAPTER 20

[1] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.*, XIX, 285.
[2] *Ibid.*, 286.
[3] *Ibid.*, 286-287.
[4] *Ibid.*, 287.
[5] *Ibid.*
[6] Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.*
[7] Letter quoted in full, Wm. Stafford Irvine, "Governor Lumpkin and Marthasville", *A.H.B.*, XI (Sept. 1937), 47-49.
[8] Meaning presumably, Land Lot 77.
[9] For whom Mitchell Street, partly in Land Lot 77, was subsequently named. Mitchell is buried in the family cemetery on his old plantation one mile west of Zebulon, Georgia, under a tombstone inscribed as follows:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
SAMUEL MITCHELL,
WHO WAS BORN IN IRELAND
ON THE 30TH DAY OF NOV. 1785
AND DIED MAY 29TH, 1847,
AGED 61 YEARS, 5 MONTHS AND 29 DAYS.

[10] Then headquarters of the W. & A. Moved to Atlanta, then Marthasville, soon after final location of the terminus.
[11] *Pioneer Citizens' History*, 184-185.
[12] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case*, 48.
[13] *Ibid.*, 104.
[14] *Ibid.*, 107.
[15] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*, 289.
[16] Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.*
[17] *Atlanta Journal*, Oct. 2, 1906.
[18] *City Directory*, 1871, p. 29.
[19] While the surveying was done in 1842, the sale of lots was deferred until 1844, 1845, and 1846.

[20] Then age 15, Martha Lumpkin was born Aug. 25, 1827, tombstone, Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta.

[21] *Ga. Laws,* 1843, p. 84.

[22] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.,* 47.

[25] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 25; Picture of house, *Ibid.,* 24.

[26] *Ibid.;* Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's First Car Shed", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Dec. 1, 1935; Careful checking of Atlanta city directories by the present writer.

[27] Testimony of F. C. Arms, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 13.

[28] Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.,* 47.

[29] Kurtz, "Departed Glory of the State Square", *loc. cit.*

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] Testimony of L. P. Grant, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 15; *Cf.* Letter of John Neal to *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 21, 1875.

[32] "Mile Post Zero", *N. C. & St. L. Railway Bulletin,* Mar. 1938.

[33] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 18.

[34] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XX, 70-71.

[35] *Ibid.,* 71.

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 26; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Mules Hauled First Engine", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 25, 1935.

[38] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 16-17.

[39] Temple, *Cobb County,* 102.

[40] Felton, *Country Life in Georgia,* 50-51.

[41] Mrs. Felton was writing in 1917.

[42] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 71.

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] Temple, *Cobb County,* 102.

[45] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Book B, 295-296. *De Kalb New Era,* Sept. 23, 1920.

[46] *Ibid.,* Book A, 1842.

[47] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[48] "Garrett's Necrology".

[49] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321; *ibid.,* 1927, p. 440.

[50] "Garrett's Necrology".

[51] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Book A, 384-385.

[52] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 224-225.

[53] *Ibid.,* 226.

[54] Eugene M. Mitchell, "Atlanta's First Real Estate Subdivision", *A.H.B.,* III (May, 1930), 11.

[55] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 227.

[56] *Atlanta Weekly Intelligencer,* Aug. 11, 1859.

[57] "Garrett's Necrology".

[58] *Ibid.*

[59] "The Montgomery Family", *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 20, 1886.

[60] Franklin M. Garrett, "Ancient Cemetery Marks Site of Fulton County's First Town", *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* May 3, 1931.

CHAPTER 21

1843

DURING the first half of the year 1843, which period saw the death of Francis Scott Key, author of the Star Spangled Banner; the appropriation by Congress of $30,000,000 to aid S. F. B. Morse in establishing the first telegraph line between Washington and Baltimore, and the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument by Daniel Webester,[1] the hamlet called Marthasville grew slowly indeed. The running of one train over the W. & A., to Marietta had given only slight impetus to the growth of the town. Thomas Kile, who arrived during this period from Gwinnett County, reported about seven families on hand.[2] He was referring of course to the immediate vicinity of the railroad terminus.

One of the seven was young Thomas George Washington Crusselle (1822-1890), a native of Washington, D. C., who arrived on the local scene with the crew engaged in building the original W. & A. bridge across the Chattahoochee River. In 1842 Crusselle built the first house on what is now Decatur Street, a double log cabin, on the south side of the street just east of Peachtree. Many years later the site was occupied by the noted Big Bonanza Saloon, No. 5 Decatur Street. Crusselle rented his pioneer structure to John Bailey and William Kile, both of whom dealt in wet goods.[3]

During his long residence in Atlanta, Mr. Crusselle was engaged as a contractor. Among the structures he built were the stone depot of the Macon and Western Railroad, adjacent to the State Square and the original State railroad shops. Among his noted residential contracts was the Ben Hill mansion, originally built for Thomas L. Cooper, next door to the present site of the Capital City Club on Peachtree Street.[4]

He was married twice, first to a Miss Duncan, who died in 1856, after bearing him three sons, and second, in 1858, to Miss Julia A. Rice, daughter of William H., and sister of the late Frank P. Rice. They became the parents of six sons and three daughters, all a credit to the community.[5]

Samuel P. Richards, founder of the well-known paper company in Atlanta, bearing his name, then a youth of nineteen, residing at Penfield, Georgia, had, in 1842, begun to keep a diary. In July, 1843, appears the following entry:

"I went on a trip from Decatur to Marietta, passing through Marthasville, a small, new village at the terminus of the Georgia Railroad.[6] Also visited Stone Mountain, which has two hotels, and is incorporated under the name of New Gibraltar."[7]

While Richards did not say so, he doubtless made the trip by stagecoach, since regular railroad service between Marietta and Decatur had not been established. In that event he probably stopped at the dinner house kept by Hiram Casey on Marietta Road near the present site of Crest Lawn Cemetery. Casey served good country fare such as corn bread, sweet potatoes, bacon and greens. Tom Shivers, the stage driver, thought there was none better.[8]

No record exists of organized religious activity in Terminus, although it is safe to assume that occasional itinerant ministers held services in the out of doors for John Thrasher's Monroe embankment workers and their families.

Not long after the new terminus had been located in Land Lot 77 and the name changed to Marthasville, a man named Wells, possibly Jeremiah, built a one room frame house near the present site of the Kimball House. Being a pious man, he desired to have religious services in the house before occuping it as a residence. Arrangements were therefore made for the services and Rev. John Thurman, a Methodist minister, was engaged to preach. The women being seated inside and the men outside, Rev. Thurman stood in the door, where he could be seen and heard by both groups. "The text and gist of the service were forgotten," Mr. Thurman said later, "but I will always remember some exhortations made by the Rev. Lumpkin, who concluded the service." The congregation was dismissed by an earnest benediction when the service was over. This pioneer sermon, the first in Marthasville, was probably delivered in the late summer of 1842.[9]

Rev. John Thurman (1810-1894) was the eldest child of Richard, one of the four Thurman brothers who settled in De Kalb County in 1826. He was licensed to preach by the Methodist Church in 1837, and, at the time of the sermon delivered at the Wells house in Marthasville, lived near what is now East Atlanta. In 1851 he removed to Carroll County, and settled six miles northeast of Bowden. There he became associated with the Methodist Protestant Church, and organized Mount Pleasant, now Smith Chapel Church. He gave the church site and the adjacent burying ground, where he now rests under a substantial monument.[10]

Pending the erection of a regular house of worship in 1847, religious services for the people of Marthasville were held occasionally by itinerant ministers in the Western and Atlantic roundhouse, and in the cotton shed of Augustus W. Wheat on what is now the southeast corner of Auburn Avenue (formerly Wheat Street) and Pryor Street.[11]

Progress on the W. & A. Railroad was painfully slow during 1843. From the message of Governor McDonald, dated November 7, is taken the following:

> "Copies of the final report of the Hon. Wilson Lumpkin, disbursing agent of the W. & A. R. R., are laid before you. It gives a condensed statement of his transactions during the term which he held the office, and shows a faithful application of the public funds which were placed in his charge. His office expired in January last, by the terms of its limitation in the law which created it. . . .
>
> "It will be perceived that but little progress has been made with the road during the year. Iron has been laid on the track, commencing at Marthasville, the southeastern terminus, and extending to a point thirteen or fourteen miles of Marietta, a distance of about thirty-three miles. Two passenger cars, and other cars for the use of the road, have been constructed in the penitentiary, in a style and strength of workmanship which prove that if that institution were conveniently located, the convicts might be profitably employed in works of that description for the State and other roads. A locomotive has been purchased, but it has not been thought expedient to run the cars regularly until a greater extent of road has been completed, or until one of the branch roads forms a junction with the State Road. One of the bridges was burned in August last, by the gross misconduct of an overseer. The loss will be repaired by the first of January next. . . . I would respectfully submit to your consideration, whether in the existing state of forwardness of the branch roads, it is not the part of a safe policy to equip the entire road with motive power, and cars amply sufficient to engage in actual and extensive business. . . ."[12]

On December 22, 1843, the Legislature repealed the suspension act of 1841, and authorized work to be resumed on the W. & A. R. R. north of the Etowah River. Section 8 of that act reads as follows:

"So much of the appropriation already made as may be necessary, shall be used to protect and keep in repair the road and timbers, and the very gradual completion of said road, to the point where the branch road to Rome is expected to join said road [Kingston], and so soon as the Monroe, or Georgia Railroad shall unite with said road, then the balance of said appropriation be expended in the purchase of engines, cars, etc., and the further very gradual extension of said road."[13]

The same act also authorized the Governor to put the penitentiary convicts at work on the road. Regular train service was still nearly two years away.

De Kalb County honored another physician in 1843 by sending Dr. William Gilbert to the State Legislature. The first had been Dr. Chapman Powell in 1836.[14] Dr. Gilbert was born about 1807 in South Carolina and, upon coming to De Kalb during the middle 1830's settled on Sandtown Road at what is now Cascade Springs. He practiced medicine successfully in southwest De Kalb and later, Fulton County until the late summer of 1864, when he died in Henry County while refugeeing with his family from the Federal Army. He is buried in that county, the exact location of his grave being unknown.[15] Among his children was Jeremiah Silas Gilbert (1839-1932) of south Fulton County. The late Dr. William L. Gilbert of Atlanta was a son of Jeremiah S., and grandson of Dr. William Gilbert.

Daniel Johnson was a colleague of Dr. Gilbert in the Legislature from De Kalb in '43, serving until 1847, while John Jones became state senator, succeeding Charles Murphey.[16]

Conditions generally, as they existed in De Kalb County in the autumn of 1843, are set forth in the Grand Jury presentments for the September term. The presentments follow:[17]

"Georgia, } The Grand Jurors sworn, chosen and selected for the County
De Kalb County } of De Kalb beg leave to submit the following presentments:

They have given the public highways a portion of their attention and while some Roads are in tolerable order, others are in bad condition.

"The roads in the 686 Dist. [present Cross Keys], part of the roads in the 469 District [present Cook's] particularly the road running by Esqr. Collier's; the roads in the 722 District, [present Buckhead] part of the roads in the 530 District [present Blackhall]; part of the Road in the Town District [present Decatur], leading to Johnson's Mill on Peach Tree Creek are in such condition that the jury recommend the attention of the proper officers to be directed to their speedy improvement.

"We report that slaves and free persons of Color are permitted to reside in the Town of Decatur contrary to law, and if the people of the Town and citizens of the County have not yet felt the injury resulting from such open violation of law, this jury believe it their duty to guard them against the future evils and damage of its continuance, and recommend the subject to the Magistrate of the District and corporate authorities of the Town.

"We have examined the public buildings of the County and find that the platform and steps at the jail door need repair and we believe ourselves authorized to say that the Court House is not made of such materials nor the workmanship such as the County has a right to expect.

"We recommend that the tax collector pay the extra tax levied in said County to the Judges of the Inferior Court to be applied to the purpose for which it was levied. We think this to be the true meaning of the law.

"We recommend to our Senators and Representatives in the next General Assembly the subject of a reduction of the number of members in said General Assembly, at least to one half their numbers; also to repeal the four months law respecting Justice's Courts and that the old law be renewed. Also to reduce the salaries of all County officers and to consolidate the office of Receiver and Collector of Tax for this County.

"We find from examination that some of the Justices of the Peace of this County are in default in making proper returns for Strays,[18] and bring the subject to the attention in the general way that the error may be amended and the law complied with. In the event of this recommendation being neglected we especially recommend this subject to the Grand Jury of March Term, 1844.

"The Books of the Clerks of the Superior and Inferior Courts are kept in a style of neatness and correctness credible (*sic*) to each of these officers. The Books of the County Treasurer are honestly, but not neatly kept and recommend him to more pains in keeping them neat. We find the accounts of the Treasurer of the poor school fund correctly and neatly kept and the money belonging to said fund disposed of according to the order of the Commissioners; $70.93 in his hands not yet appearing on his accounts, having very recently come into his hands.

"In taking leave of his Honor Judge William Ezzard we express to him and our fellow citizens a decided approbation of the ability and industry manifested by him in the discharge of his official duties, and tender him our thanks for the polite attention he has bestowed on this body. To the Solicitor General, Kinchin L. Haralson for his urbanity to this body and his vigilance as a prosecuting officer, we also tender our hearty thanks. Saturday Evening, September 23, 1843."

"James H. Kirkpatrick, Foreman

Willis L. Wells
James F. Montgomery
Aaron Jones
George W. Foote
James Moore
William Gilbert
Thomas Kennedy
Charner Humphries
John Dabbs
Joseph Willis
Walter Wolcott
George Elliott
James W. Reeve
Thomas C. Gober
John Avery
John McCullough
Josiah Power"

The settlement called Marthasville had no official corporate existence until the end of the year 1843. It had, as previously noted, been recognized by the Post Office Department, but still it had no charter, no municipal government, no legal existence. It was simply an unincorporated community, but withal, a growing one. The Legislature of 1843 remedied these deficiencies and granted the young town a charter which provided for a commission form of government. As an important landmark in the history of Atlanta, the Act is herewith quoted:

"An Act to incorporate the town of Marthasville, in the county of De Kalb, and to appoint commissioners for the same; and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same. That from and after the passage of this act, L. V. Ganong [Gannon], John Baley [Bailey], Willis Carlisle, John Kile, senior, and Patrick Quin [Quinn], be and they are hereby appointed commissioners for the town of Marthasville, in the County of De Kalb, situated at the south-eastern terminus of the Western and Atlantic Rail Road; and they, or a majority of them, and their successors in office, shall have power and authority to pass all by-laws and ordinances which they, or a majority of them, may deem expedient and necessary for the improvement and benefit of the internal police of said town: Provided nevertheless, that said by-laws be not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, and the constitution and laws of this State.

Sec. 2. That said commissioners, or a majority of them, shall have full power to convene at any time, and at any place, within the corporate limits of said town, after the passage of this act, and proceed to the election of a clerk, and such other officers as they, or a majority of them, may deem necessary to carry this act into execution.

Sec. 3. That the said commissioners, and their successors in office, shall have corporate jurisdiction to the extent of the boundary lines of the present town lots, and to the extent of the boundary lines of any and all other town lots that may hereafter be added to said town; and that the said commissioners shall continue in office until the first Monday in March, eighteen hundred and forty five; on which day, and on the first Monday in March in every subsequent year thereafter, the citizens of said town, who are qualified to vote for members of the Legislature, and who have paid corporation taxes that have been required of them, shall meet at some place designated by said commissioners, and shall elect by ballot, five persons to succeed the former commissioners of said town; and they are hereby vested with full powers and authority to make such by-laws and regulations, and inflict such penalties for the violation of the same; and to do all other corporate acts, which in their judgment may seem right and conducive to the good order, correct morals, and good government of said town.

Sec. 4. That should there be no election of commissioners on the day pointed out by this act, it shall not be varied, but an election may be held by the citizens aforesaid, on any other day within three months thereafter; the same commissioners remaining in office, and exercising all the rights and powers herein granted, until their successors shall be elected and qualified as aforesaid: Provided, the same commissioners are eligible to reelection.

Sec. 5. That all laws and parts of laws militating against this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Assented to, December 23d, 1843.

George W. Crawford, Governor."[19]

The five gentlemen designated as Commissioners in the charter of Marthasville were not, so far as known, possessed of legal minds. They ranged in age from 53 for Kile, down to 22 for Carlisle. L. V. Gannon was the pioneer host of the community. He kept a boarding house in the original two-story building, erected the year before by Chief Engineer Garnett of the W. & A. R. R. His guests were chiefly railroad workers. Patrick Quinn was a railroad contractor. John Bailey and Willis Carlisle were retail grocers, Bailey dealing chiefly in drinkables. John Kile had no regular occupation. He was something of an elder citizen and had owned land in De Kalb County since 1826.[20]

Five days after its efforts upon behalf of Marthasville, the legislature, on December 28th, turned its attention to the town of New Gibraltar [Stone Mountain], and enlarged its limits so as to extend a distance of six hundred yards in every direction from the house of Andrew Johnson. This largess was accompanied by an admonition to the city folks of New Gibraltar, by providing: "That the citizens resident within the corporate limits of said town shall be exempt from road-duty—Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to exempt said citizens from working on the streets and other public grounds in said town."[21] This provision doubtless prevented a wholesale removal from without to within the city limits.

NOTES—CHAPTER 21

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 110-111.

[2] *City Directory,* 1871, p. 28; "Garrett's Necrology".

[3] "Recollections of T. G. W. Crusselle", *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 23, 1890; "Garrett's Necrology".

[4] "Recollections of T. G. W. Crusselle", *loc. cit.*

[5] Obituary, *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 22, 1890.

[6] The Georgia Railroad had not yet reached Marthasville.

[7] *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 16, 1924.

[8] "Recollections of T. G. W. Crusselle", *loc. cit.*

[9] John D. Humphries, *Descendants of John Thurman of Virginia,* (Atlanta, 1938), 42; Thornwell Jacobs, Jr., "Story of Plans and Achievement of City's First Sermon Revealed", *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 16, 1934.

[10] Humphries, *Descendants of John Thurman,* 42; "Garrett's Necrology".

[11] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 139; Reed, *Atlanta,* 376.

[12] *Ga. House Journal,* 1843, pp. 18-19.

[13] *Ga. Laws,* 1843, pp. 138-140.

[14] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321.

[15] Jeremiah S. Gilbert to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Jan. 24, 1931.

[16] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 321; *Ibid.,* 1927, p. 440.

[17] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Book A, 477-478.

[18] Stray livestock.

[19] *Ga. Laws,* 1843, p. 84.

[20] "Garrett's Necrology".

[21] *Ga. Laws,* 1843, pp. 105-106.

CHAPTER 22

1844

"WHAT God hath wrought." Those four words constituted the first message sent by Morse's telegraph, between Washington and Baltimore on May 24, 1844. Three days later the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore nominated James Polk and George M. Dallas for president and vice-president. The news was flashed over the telegraph between the same points, providing the convention with the distinction of being the first to avail itself of the new method of communication.[1]

Polk's opponent, Henry Clay, the Whig nominee, had many ardent admirers in Georgia and enjoyed great personal popularity. However he had destroyed his prospects of carrying any considerable portion of the South by his opposition to the annexation of Texas, the leading issue of the campaign. Even so, Polk was able to carry Georgia by the comparatively slim majority of 2,000 votes.[2]

While the presidential contest occupied the center of the stage, a slight flutter was heard locally in the wings. The Commissioners of the newly created Town of Marthasville were testing their charter-given powers upon a skeptical citizenry.

The first move was the levy of a tax for the purpose of opening new streets. This was not only met with a stubborn refusal to pay, but with an invitation to the commissioners to hitch up their mules and clear the ground themselves. The citizens thought that the existing seven streets, Marietta, Decatur, Peachtree, Whitehall, Pryor, Loyd [Central Avenue] and Alabama were sufficient.[3]

Attempts by the commissioners to try lawbreakers were equally ineffective. The accused, being notified by friends that officers were after him, usually struck out for the woods, there remaining for some time during daylight hours. He was generally able to return at night, eat a good supper and gather some local news before returning to the woods.[4]

All in all the commissioners were impotent as a governing body. They received little cooperation from the citizenry, made up for the most part of transient railroad workers. History has demonstrated time and again that no government has succeeded without the cooperation of the governed.

The grand jury for the March term, 1844 illuminated to some extent the problems of the commissioners of Marthasville, when it said:

> ". . . we have declined recommending to the Inferior Court the levy of an extra tax for the purpose of the poor school fund, as vice and immorality seems to be prevailing in our County, particularly on the line of the Rail Road. We recommend all officers whose duty it is to be vigilant in bringing offenders to justice. . . ."
>
> JAMES DIAMOND, Foreman.[5]

The various commissioners of Marthasville during 1844 and 1845, and of Atlanta in 1846 and 1847 kept no records, or if kept they have never come to light. Therefore we do not know who was appointed "clerk" to the commissoners or indeed who the commissioners themselves were in '46 and '47, unless those elected in 1845 continued in office. An article in the Atlanta *Constitu-*

tion,[6] published more than sixty years ago identifies the individuals who served as "marshal" from 1844 to the organization of a police force headed by a "chief" in 1874.

First honors, according to this article went to a native Frenchman named Antonio [or Antoine],[7] whose deputy was Jim Kelley. Of course the idea of arresting a free white man just because he got drunk and cut somebody, or exchanged a friendly shot or two, was not considered necessary in a raw new town like Marthasville. It is therefore, to be inferred that the Messrs. Antonio and Kelley did not exert themselves unduly in the direction of making arrests.

While the rough element was much in evidence locally in these early days it must not be inferred that good substantial citizens were entirely lacking. During '43 and '44 Marthasville acquired several of them. Edwin Payne, Stephen Terry, Ambrose B. Forsyth and William G. Forsyth cast their lot with the community in 1843, while Jonathan Norcross, James Loyd and James A. Collins arrived in 1844, and John J. Thrasher returned from Griffin the same year.[8]

Payne, a devout Methodist and expert cabinet maker, specializing in chairs, was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, in 1796, and came to Marthasville from Newton County, Georgia. He acquired a substantial tract of land out some distance from town along the Marietta Road north of what is now Simpson Street and settled there. He was to contribute very tangibly to the religious life of Atlanta.[9]

Major Terry moved into the settlement from his farm on the present site of Lakewood Park. Born in Chester District, South Carolina, in 1788, he had settled in De Kalb County in 1826 and, being a surveyor, had assisted in the construction of the Monroe Railroad. As a citizen of Marthasville and of Atlanta he commanded the respect and esteem of all by his straightforward and independent spirit and unbending integrity. He was, perhaps, the first active real estate man in the new town.[10]

The Forsyth brothers, Ambrose B., and William G., were natives of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Ambrose, the elder, was born in 1812 and, upon his arrival at Marthasville in March, 1843, bought the first cotton ever sold in the place. He continued in this business for most of his life. Forsyth Street in downtown Atlanta bears his name.[11]

In August, 1844, came Jonathan Norcross, who arrived on horseback from Putnam County, Georgia, to make his home in Marthasville. He was born in Orono, Maine, in 1808, and had been a citizen of Georgia since 1836. His primary objective in coming to the new community was to set up a sawmill for the purpose of getting out string timber, sills and cross-ties for the Georgia Railroad, then abuilding from Newton County toward the terminus of the W. & A.

This sawmill, operated by Mr. Norcross for about a year, not only attracted great attention from the local citizenry and country people in the neighborhood, but held the distinction of being Marthasville's, and hence Atlanta's, first manufacturing enterprise.

Motive power for the sawmill was supplied by an old blind horse. It was located at the present intersection of Decatur and Pratt streets, near which site Norcross built his first local home. William G. Forsyth, then a young man of twenty-four was sawyer at the Norcross mill. The establishment was a boon to poor people in the locality, for Mr. Norcross generously gave away many slabs, which were utilized in the erection of houses around the mill. The locality became known as "Slab Town," a designation it retained for several years.

In 1846 Jonathan Norcross bought the present First National Bank corner at Peachtree and Marietta streets, whereon he erected a store for the sale of general merchandise. The corner was generally known, until comparatively recent years as the "Norcross Corner". As the years went by the name of Jonathan Norcross was to loom large among the men who built Atlanta.[12]

James A. Collins and James Loyd, brothers-in-law, came in from Boltonville on the Chattahoochee River and opened a general store on what was to become Loyd Street, now Central Avenue, at the east end of the present Wall Street.[13] The late Lewis H. Clarke, upon the occasion of a dinner given in 1884 by D. N. Sloan, to some of the old settlers, made a talk in which he said:

> "When I first came here it was a thicket—all woods. We had to haul goods in wagons from Madison. That was the spring of 1844. On the first day of April of that year I was clerking for Collins and Loyd, who had opened a brand new store. . . . That night Painter Smith, A. B. Forsyth, Harrison Bryant, and several others, who made up the sum and substance of the town, serenaded us with tin pans and horns. In the fall we hauled our goods from Social Circle. In the spring of 1845 we hauled them from Covington. . . ."[14]

Capt. Loyd was born in North Carolina in 1801, and lived in Hall and Cobb counties in Georgia, before coming to Marthasville. His wife, Mildred Collins, was a sister of his business partner. James A. Collins was also a native of North Carolina, born in 1807. He returned to his plantation at Boltonville, then in Cobb County in 1849. Both of these pioneer Atlantans died the same year, 1862, Collins in March and Loyd in June. They are buried in unmarked graves in the Collins family cemetery on the old Marietta Road (Dixie Highway No. 41) just across the Chattahoochee River from the present town of Bolton. For many years two of Atlanta's most prominent streets bore their names, Central Avenue being originally Loyd Street and Courtland Street, Collins. It is regrettable that street names of significance are too often changed to those of no significance.[15]

The late James W. and John H. Loyd, of Atlanta, were sons of Capt. James Loyd. One of his daughters, Emma, married the late Judge William A. Wilson, of near Adamsville. James D. Collins (1846-1904) long clerk of the Fulton County Superior Court, was a son of James A. Collins. The Collins Memorial Methodist Church at Bolton is named in honor of James D. Collins and his wife, nee Jennie Clarke.[16]

During his two year sojourn in Griffin, John J. Thrasher apparently reached the conclusion that Marthasville might have a future after all. So in 1844 he returned and went into business, chiefly cotton buying, on Marietta Street. Later he moved to Whitehall Street. He was by nature a speculator and made and lost several small fortunes.[17]

It was during one of these prosperous interludes, between 1854 and 1858, that he built a large square two-story brick house on what is now the west side of Ashby Street, S.W., opposite West End Avenue. The home was then surrounded by a three hundred acre plantation. During most of the month of August, 1864, Thrasher's house had a distinguished tenant. General John B. Hood, commander in chief of all Confederate forces in and around Atlanta, occupied it as his headquarters just prior to the occupation of Atlanta by Sherman's army.[18]

The home survived the war, although it bore a battle scar—the marking of a spent cannon ball on its north wall. The property was acquired by Dr. Elijah L. Connally in 1887 and, as "The Homestead" was occupied by the family until Dr. Connally's death in 1930. The old home was torn down in 1931,[19] its site now being a vacant lot. Many of the fine old trees that once shaded "The Homestead" still stand.

"Cousin" John Thrasher apparently did not occupy the brick house after the war. He was living in Atlanta in 1870 for his name appears in the city directory of that year as follows:

"Thrasher, J. J. 'cousin John', res es Harris b Hayden and Orme"

Shortly thereafter he moved to Central, South Carolina, on the recently completed Atlanta & Charlotte Air Line [Southern] Railroad. There, in 1879, a writer for *Harper's Magazine* found him operating a railroad eating house.[20]

Late in life this pioneer and colorful Atlantan settled on an orange grove in Dade City, Florida, where he died November 13, 1899, at the age of 81. He is buried there.[21]

On January 8, 1844, three new county officers were sworn in. They were Spencer P. Wright, Sheriff, Moses D. Harris, Coroner, and John Morse, Surveyor. John Glen and Elzy B. Reynolds continued as Clerks of the Superior and Inferior Courts.

During the September, 1844 term of the De Kalb Superior Court, Clerk Glen was kept busy issuing certificates of naturalization. Following were the recipients: Patrick Dunahoo, John Bradley, Patrick Sullivan, Michael McCullough, William O'Neill, John Conner, Bernard Corby, John A. Doyle, and Thomas Dunegan. All were Irish laborers.[22] It is reasonably certain that they were "working on the railroad", probably the Georgia.

In fact Chief Engineer Edgar Thomson reported to the Directors of the Georgia Railroad in July, 1844, "that all grading completed in Newton County, except a rock cut two miles beyond the Alcovy River. River and cut getting on satisfactorily. Contracts have been made for superstructure within fifteen miles of the terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, and expect work to be finished by January 1, 1845. . . ."[23]

The nucleus of the Irish influence in early Atlanta was being formed.

The Masonic fraternity arrived officially in De Kalb County during 1844.

Pythagoras Lodge, No. 41, Free and Accepted Masons, in Decatur, Georgia, was instituted under dispensation by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, William C. Dawson, on April 12, 1844, and received its charter November 7, 1844, on the recommendation of Kennesaw Lodge, No. 33, F. & A. M., at Marietta, Georgia, that being the nearest Masonic Lodge to Decatur at that time. The original members to whom this dispensation was issued were: Elzy B. Reynolds, George W. Reeves, W. H. Graham, R. E. Mangum, John Evans, Thomas M. Darnell, Ezekiel Reeves, Nathaniel Mangum, and Frederick C. Arms. Officers appointed under the dispensation were Elzy B. Reynolds, Worshipful Master; George W. Reeves, Senior Warden; and John Evans, Junior Warden. Mr. Reynolds continued as Worshipful Master during 1845 and 1846.[24]

Between April 12 and October 7, 1844, twelve new members of the Lodge were raised. They were:

(1) Leonard C. Simpson, lawyer, later of Atlanta.
(2) W. M. Hill, a merchant of Decatur.

(3) Alexander Johnson, physician.
(4) John Wadsworth, who operated a tin ware business.
(5) E. N. Calhoun, physician.
(6) Michael O'Brien, railroad contractor.
(7) Patrick Quinn, railroad contractor and one of the five commissioners of Marthasville.
(8) J. T. Slater, stone mason.
(9) R. M. Brown, then in the tailoring business; later Clerk of the De Kalb County Superior Court.
(10) Lewis L. Ledbetter, Methodist preacher.
(11) James R. Henry, farmer.
(12) Spencer P. Wright, Sheriff of De Kalb County.[25]

A receipt dated July 17, 1844, shows that the first furniture for the Lodge was purchased from J. and L. S. Morgan for $46. It consisted of a lecture stands; 3 light stands; one altar; one ballot box; 3 squares; one rule; 3 trowels. All were made and painted by the Messrs. Morgan. William F. Chewning was paid $7 on December 19, 1844, for engraving the first seal for the Lodge.[26]

It is not known where the first meetings of Pythagoras Lodge were held, but it is said that in 1847 the first Lodge Hall was located in a large two-story frame building on the north side of the Court House Square, in Decatur, the site of the present Masonic Temple, northeast corner of Ponce de Leon and Clairmont avenues.[27]

Travel between De Kalb and Cobb counties was facilitated in 1844 by establishment of the Mayson and Turner Ferry across the Chattahoochee River at the present site of the Bankhead Highway bridge. The east landing was on fractional lot No. 19 of the 14th District of De Kalb. now Fulton County, and the west landing on fractional lot No. 284 of the 18th District of Cobb County.[28] This ferry carried a sizable amount of traffic to and from Carroll County and points west. Indeed, it was not until the 1880's that railroad transportation was available in this direction from Atlanta.

During 1849 Messrs. Mayson and Turner became defendants in some litigation with the heirs of John B. Nelson, represented by Frederick A. Williams. Gist of the lawsuit was unfair competition with the older Nelson's Ferry, about a half a mile downstream.[29] Mayson and Turner prevailed in the De Kalb Superior Court, Judge E. Y. Hill, presiding, but his decision was reversed by the Supreme Court. Further legal action in the matter is not of record, but the Mayson and Turner Ferry, being more favorably located gradually drew most of the business away from its older competitor. Nelson's Ferry had ceased operation by the time of the War Between the States. The legality of the Mayson and Turner Ferry was finally established by legislative act in 1850, providing for its establishment.[30]

James Lucas Mayson (1799-1881), proprietor of the De Kalb (Fulton) side of the ferry, was a South Carolinian by birth and settled in De Kalb County during the early 1830's. Daniel R. Turner (1808-1888), a native Georgian, came to Cobb County a few years later. Both resided near their respective ends of the ferry and are buried in family cemeteries nearby, Mayson in Fulton County, and Turner in Cobb. The late James L. Mayson, long city attorney of Atlanta, was a grandson of James Lucas Mayson, while the late Allison Q. Turner, former Chief of Fulton County Police, was a grandson of Daniel R. Turner.[31]

Mayson and Turner avenue, NW in Atlanta retains the name of the old ferry. It is a segment of the original road leading from Atlanta to this noted river crossing.

The De Kalb County grand jury for the September term covered most of the bases as to general conditions within the county. Its presentments, in part, follow:

"We regret to find the roads and bridges in our county generally in a bad condition. . . .

"We have examined the jail of our county by a committee appointed for that purpose, and find it sufficiently strong for ordinary purposes at this time. . . .

"We recommend the Inferior Court to take measures for the preservation of the shade trees on the public square.[32]

"We also recommend the Inferior Court to reserve one of the rooms in the Court House for the use of the Grand Jury, and the balance of the rooms not necessary to be used as offices we recommend to be rented at public outcry to the highest bidder. . . .

"We suggest to the Clerk of the Inferior Court the propriety of keeping a book for recording licenses and keeping an account of the pauper money.

"We have examined by our Committee the Tax Collector's books and make the following report:

The amount tax assessed for the present year is		$4,391.08
By amt. paid to the Inferior Court	$910.00	
By amt. paid to the County Treasurer	$442.26	
By amt. Tax Receiver's Commission	$149.47	
	$1,501.73	
Leaving in the hands of the Collector, unappropriated and not collected		$2,889.35

". . . We have examined the County Treasurer's books and take pleasure in saying that his accounts are honestly and correctly kept, and the only exception that can be suggested is the style, which is not as neat and beautiful as we would desire.

"We recommend that the Justices of the Peace be requested to enforce with more rigidity the Patrol laws."

The presentments closed with a feeling tribute to Judge Ezzard, and a salute to the Solicitor General.[33]

"HASTINGS D. PALMER, Foreman

Charles J. Cochran
Hezekiah Cheshire
William Miller
John Bellinger
Salathael Adams
Thomas M. Evins
Thomas C. Gober
Levi Betterton
William Barnett
Boice Eidson
James Moore
Cornelius M. Connally
Robert Orr
Marat Megee
Killis Brown
Fanning Brown
John Huey
Edward Watts
John M. Boring
Peter Mitchell
Lewis Towers
John Patrick"

Judge Ezzard was indeed retiring after four years on the bench. As the September term, 1844, drew to a close the local bar paid their respects in a well deserved tribute, the preamble of which reads:

"As the official term of the Honorable William Ezzard, the presiding officer of the Superior Courts of the Coweta Circuit is rapidly hastening to a close, and as the last Court which he will hold in the County of De Kalb is about to adjourn, the undersigned members of the bar and officers of the Superior Court wish to pay him a tribute of respect and approbation. . . ." The tribute is spread upon the Minutes of the De Kalb Superior Court, Book "B," pages 71, 72. It was signed by the following gentlemen:

"James M. Calhoun
Leonard C. Simpson
Nathaniel Mangum
George Kerr Smith
John Collier
Isham J. Wood
Charles Murphey
John N. Bellinger
William H. Dabney
Abram B. Fall
William B. Stokes
Kinchin L. Haralson

John Glen, Clerk
Spencer P. Wright, Shff.
Thomas J. Perkerson, D. Shff.
John W. Fowler, Former Shff.
John Jones, Former D. Shff."

The above list is illuminating as to the identity of the local bar during the period when Marthasville was to bloom into Atlanta. While most of them lived in Decatur in 1844, several, including Calhoun, Simpson, Mangum, Collier, Dabney, and Glen were soon to become citizens of Atlanta. Leonard C. Simpson, in fact, became the first resident lawyer of the new town,[34] and Judge Ezzard, an early mayor.

On January 21, 1844, a tall read-headed twenty-three-year-old First Lieutenant in the U. S. Army, then at Charleston, South Carolina, received orders to report to Marietta, Georgia. He traveled by rail via Augusta to Madison, where he took the mail coach. Passing through Marthasville, he arrived at Marietta on February 17th. The journey took three days, for he had been delayed in leaving Charleston until February 14th.

Upon arrival, the young Lieutenant reported to Colonel Churchill, Inspector General of the Army. He then spent the next six weeks assisting in the taking of depositions in upper Georgia and Alabama concerning certain losses by volunteers in Florida of horses and equipments by reason of the failure of the United States to provide sufficient forage, and for which Congress had made an appropriation.

During his spare time, the Lieutenant repeatedly rode horseback to Kennesaw Mountain, from the summit of which he viewed the surrounding country including Allatoona Pass, eighteen miles to the north. He also found time to ride, also by horseback, to the Etowah River, to Allatoona, and to the Indian mounds on the Tumlin plantation in Cass, now Bartow County.

Upon completion of their work in Marietta, the party was ordered to transfer its operations to Bellefonte, Alabama. En route, again by horseback, the young Lieutenant familiarized himself with the country west of Marietta and around Rome. Two months later, the work of taking depositions finished, the Lieutenant returned to Augusta upon his horse, passing through Rome, Allatoona, Marietta, Marthasville, and Madison, thence to Charleston and Fort Moultrie by rail.

This assignment, during the early months of 1844, gave the young soldier a chance to study, at close range, the slopes, curves and stretches of the terrain, a habit engendered by a singular fondness for the earth. The information, carefully preserved in his memory, was to stand him in good stead. He returned twenty years later, not alone, and no longer a lieutenant. His name was William T. Sherman.[35]

NOTES—CHAPTER 22

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 112.

[2] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 150.

[3] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 19-20.

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1844, Book B.

[6] "Atlanta Police, From the Days of Marthasville in '44 to Atlanta in '88", *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 12, 1888.

[7] The U. S. Census of 1850 for Atlanta lists "Antoine" as the head of a family of four; age 36; occupation, merchant; place of birth, France.

[8] "Garrett's Necrology".

[9] *Southern Christian Advocate,* Oct. 7, 1870; "Garrett's Necrology".

[10] *Atlanta Daily New Era,* Dec. 9, 1866; "Garrett's Necrology".

[11] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 384-385; "Garrett's Necrology".

[12] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 361; "A Notable Figure, Norcoss Interviewed by Henry W. Grady", *Atlanta Constitution,* June 12, 1881; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 19, 239; Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 34; II, 688.

[13] "Garrett's Necrology".

[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 40.

[15] "Garrett's Necrology".

[16] *Ibid.*

[17] *City Directory,* 1871, p. 25; *Atlanta Constitution,* May 22, 1910.

[18] Wilbur G. Kurtz, Sr., to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Nov. 16, 1950. Supported by entries in Bishop Lay's Diary in possession of Mr. Kurtz.

[19] Ralph Smith, "In Crackerland", *Atlanta Journal,* Aug. 13, 1933. Being, in part, some recollections of Mrs. John S. Spalding, a daughter of Dr. Connally.

[20] *Harper's New Monthly Magazine,* Dec., 1879.

[21] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 14, 1899; "Garrett's Necrology".

[22] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1844, Book B.

[23] Cumming, *Georgia Railroad,* 63.

[24] R. Low Reynolds to Franklin M. Garrett, letter, July 27, 1950. Mr. Reynolds is a grandson of Elzy B. Reynolds and of John Evans.

[25] George R. Jones, *A History of Pythagoras Lodge No. 41, F. & A. M.* (Decatur, Ga., 1944), 2-3; "Garrett's Necrology".

[26] Jones, *Pythagoras Lodge,* 2-3.

[27] Reynolds to Garrett, July 27, 1950; Jones, *Pythagoras Lodge,* 8.

[28] 7 *Ga. Reports,* 348.

[29] *Ibid.;* Mitchell, "Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *loc. cit.,* 35-42.

[30] Mitchell, "Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *loc. cit.*

[31] "Garrett's Necrology".

[32] In Decatur.

[33] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1844, Book B.

[34] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 131.

[35] *Memoirs of Gen. W. T. Sherman, Written By Himself* (2 vols., New York, 1891) I, 30-32; Lloyd Lewis, *Sherman, Fighting Prophet* (New York, 1932), 72.

CHAPTER 23

1845

DURING the year in which Florida became the twenty-seventh state and Texas the twenty-eighth, De Kalb County received a partial new deal in Inferior Court Justices; Marthasville, a practically new slate of Town Commissioners, and the State of Georgia, a Supreme Court.

John N. Bellinger, the lawyer, and William Hairston, planter, continued as Justices of the Inferior Court, while Lawrence S. Morgan, Ezekiel A. Davis, and our old friend Lochlin Johnson donned the judicial ermine on January 15, 1845.[1] During the same month four of the original Commissioners of Marthasville were retired. Their successors were Ambrose B. Forsyth, Stephen Terry, James Loyd, and James A. Collins. Willis Carlisle succeeded himself, the only heldover.[2]

A stronger group than these five men could hardly have been found in Marthasville. Yet their efforts to govern the community were no more effective than those of their predecessors. The twenty or so families of the town simply did not take municipal ordnances seriously, and efforts to collect taxes with which to make the ordnances effective proved unavailing.

Under the judicial system in effect in Georgia prior to 1845, all cases were tried in the county where the case arose. There was no provision for appeal to a court outside the county. The constitution of Georgia was amended in 1835 authorizing a Supreme Court. However, it was not until 1845 that the Legislature passed an Act providing for the actual establishment of such a court. It was originally constituted as a circuit court in that it was to "sit at least once a year . . . in each of five judicial districts," and, secondly, it was to "dispose of and finally determine . . . every case on the docket . . . at the first term after such writ of error was brought," a provision that necessitated dismissal of many cases before they could be adjudicated.[3]

The Act of 1845, creating the Supreme Court, divided the ten existing superior court circuits into five districts and designated nine cities where the court should sit at specified dates. The cities were: Savannah, Hawkinsville, Talbotton, Americus, Macon, Decatur, Cassville, Gainesville, and Milledgeville. This schedule required the judges to travel more than 1,000 miles a year at their own expense.[4]

The first Supreme Court was composed of able jurists: Joseph Henry Lumpkin, Hiram Warner, and Eugenius A. Nisbet. Judge Warner had previously, 1836-1840, presided as Superior Court judge, over the Coweta Circuit, and, in this capacity had frequently held court in Decatur. The first term of the Supreme Court. January, 1846, was held in Talbotton. The seventh term, August, 1846, found the Court sitting at Decatur. During this term the following members of the bar were admitted to practice in the Supreme Court:

James M. Calhoun, Decatur
George D. Rice, Marietta
Charles J. McDonald, Marietta
Leonard C. Simpson, Decatur
Thomas F. Jones, Covington
William Ezzard, Decatur
William H. Dabney, Decatur
Washington Poe, Macon
John R. Alexander, Lawrenceville
John Collier, Decatur
William W. Clarke, Covington
Isham J. Wood, Decatur
James P. Simmons, Lawrenceville
J. S. Pinckard, Forsyth

Edward Cannon,
W. D. Alexander, Greenville
Augustus C. Ferrell, La Grange
Jared I. Whittaker, Fayetteville
John Huie, Fayetteville
Orville A. Bull, La Grange
Obadiah Warner, Greenville
Luther J. Glenn, McDonough
P. B. Cox, Griffin
L. T. Doyal, Culloden
William W. Arnold, Zebulon
William Dougherty, Columbus
Charles Murphey, Decatur[5]

A number of these gentlemen became citizens of Atlanta a few years later.

The De Kalb County Grand Jury for the March term, 1845, found improved moral conditions. It said:

"We are gratified to find that our Superior Court has not been crowded with the usual number of Indictments for minor offences which has been frequently returned, and evinces a state of harmony and friendly feeling among our citizens, and shows an evident improvement in the moral condition of our community. Notwithstanding our County is not free from crime yet. The commission of offences are mostly confined to foreigners and other transient persons engaged on the Rail Roads.

"Our roads are generally in good order with the exception of those places where they are in contiguity with the Rail Road."

"LOCHLIN JOHNSON, Foreman."[6]

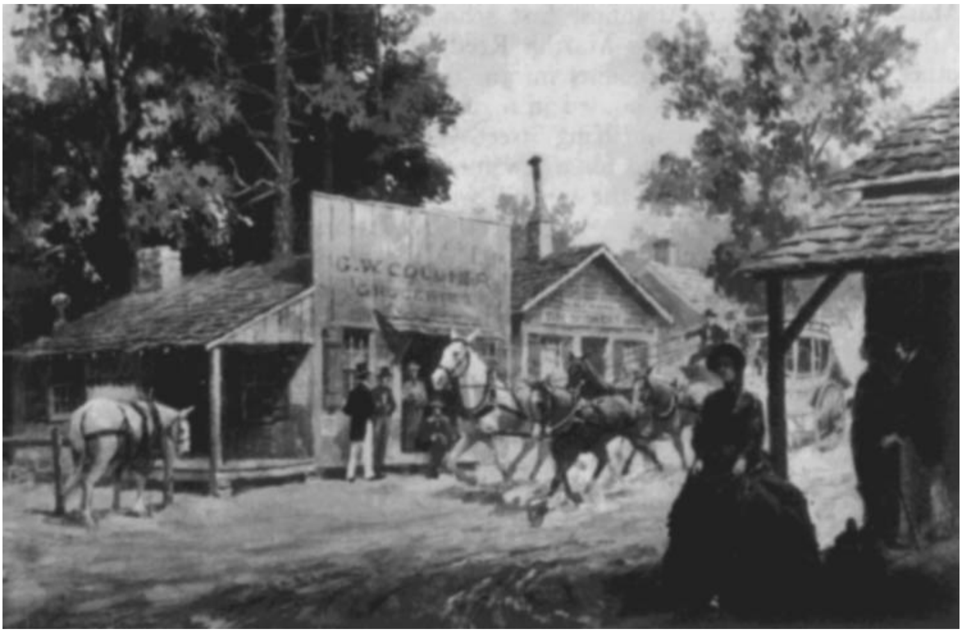
During the same term of the Superior Court, a number of so-called "foreigners" were naturalized. All were Irish. Their names were: Alexander McWilliams, James Burns, and John Moore, of County Antrim; Thomas Burke, of County Armagh; Patrick Duffee, of County Meath; John Fitzpatrick, of County Limerick, and Michael Nowland, of County Cavan.[7]

While railroad building brought to the Atlanta area its first influx of foreign-born citizens, the Irish, it was not long before some German-born Jewish families settled in Marthasville. The first to arrive founded a family whose subsequent contributions to the city have been many. His name was Jacob Haas.

Jacob was born in Hessendarmstadt, Germany, near Worms, in 1803 and, with his wife, nee Jeanetta Hirsch, came to America in 1842. His objective was Philadelphia. Like so many German immigrants who came to seek their fortunes in the New World, he started out with a pack on his back and for a year or two peddled in and about the City of Brotherly Love. His efforts being modestly successful, he decided to move South and go into general merchandising. So, together with Henry Levi, also originally of Hessendarmstadt, he moved to Decatur, Georgia, and opened a dry goods store. This was in the early part of 1845[8]

Later in the same year, after the Georgia Railroad was completed, the partners transferred their business to Marthasville, and the firm of Haas and Levi hung out its sign in front of a one story frame building on the west side of Whitehall Street, two or three doors south of Alabama Street. The firm prospered and in 1847 the partners bought lots across the street and farther south toward Hunter Street. Upon these lots they erected a large two story frame building wherein was conducted one of the most extensive general merchandise businesses in the new city. The family lived above the store. Among the well-known Atlanta citizens of a later day who derived early business experience clerking for Haas and Levi in the 1840's, were Calvin W. Hunnicutt, John Silvey and Jett W. Rucker.[9]

In 1850 Henry Levi, who had been admitted to U. S. citizenship by the De Kalb County Superior Court on March 18, 1846,[10] withdrew from his partnership with Jacob Haas and moved to California, where he subsequently died. Jacob Haas himself returned to Philadelphia with his family in 1851, leaving his Atlanta business in charge of David Mayer, a pioneer Jewish citizen of the community. Mr. Haas died in Philadelphia in 1857, but his widow subsequently returned to Atlanta where she lived until her death in 1890. Their daughter Caroline, born in Atlanta, November 14, 1848, became the wife of Jacob Haas (1844-1909) well known Atlanta banker and insurance man. Among the children of Jacob and Caroline Haas are Arthur and Herbert, and the late Leopold J. Haas, of Atlanta.[11]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Marathasville, 1845, G. W. Collier, Grocer and Postmaster. The stagecoach, en route from Decatur to Newnan is on Decatur Street approaching Peachtree, upon which fronted the Post Office.

A slightly younger brother of Jacob, the pioneer, Herman Haas, settled in Atlanta in 1848 and formed a mercantile partnership with Herman Levi, a brother of Henry. Herman Haas was the father of Aaron Haas (1841-1912), a founder of the present Atlanta real estate and insurance firm of Haas and Dodd, formerly Haas and Howell.[12]

Before the decade of the 1840's had run its course other good Jewish citizens had cast their lot with Atlanta. Among them were Moses Sternberger, Adolph J. Brady, David Mayer and Aaron Alexander.

Religion and education proceeded modestly in Marthasville during 1845. A stone building which stood in the rear of the two-story railroad office in the

State Square was used for preaching during the winter of 1844-45. The minister was Rev. Osburn L. Smith, a Methodist itinerant, who later (1871-75) served as president of Emory College at Oxford.[13]

Sometime during the summer of '45 a protracted meeting was held in A. W. Wheat's cotton warehouse. Bishop James O. Andrew, Rev. George W. Lane, of Emory College, and others officiated. The meeting lasted for several days, and was the first of its kind to be held in the town.[14]

It has never been definitely ascertained who qualifies for the honor of Marthasville's, hence Atlanta's, first school teacher. The early historians of Atlanta[15] agree upon Miss Martha Reed, though none offer documentary or other evidence. Their accounts inform us that Miss Reed organized a small private school which was housed in a rude shanty near the present intersection of the Georgia Railroad and King Street. This educational project was launched sometime during 1845, and for a few months at least, Miss Reed imparted the three r's to the children of the sawmill workers, lumbermen, teamsters, railroad men, blacksmiths, commissary-keepers, mechanics and laborers who then comprised the majority of the population. Her equipment doubtless included Webster's "Blue-Back" spelling book and slates, upon which the youth of the community practiced penmanship and worked sums involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.[16]

All authorities ascribe the dissolution of Miss Reed's school to a happy event—her marriage to George Robinson. Yet the De Kalb County marriage records[17] show that George Robinson didn't marry Martha Reed at all. On October 2, 1845, he was united in marriage to Miss Martha Ann Bird by Thomas L. Thomas, Minister of the Gospel. The groom, a bookkeeper and native of Massachusetts was 45. His bride was 23.[18] The couple continued to reside in Atlanta for many years. So maybe Atlanta's first school teacher was Martha Bird and not Martha Reed. At least the question is moot.

The professions of medicine and law became permanently represented in Atlanta during 1845, the former in the person of Dr. Joshua Gilbert[19] and the latter by Leonard Christopher Simpson.[20]

Dr. Gilbert, younger brother of Dr. William Gilbert, the pioneer rural physician of De Kalb, now Fulton County, was born in Clemson County, South Carolina, in 1815, the year in which Dr. Crawford W. Long, the discoverer of anesthesia, was also born. After reading medicine for a short time with his brother, Dr. Joshua attended the Augusta Medical College, now the Medical Department of the University of Georgia. Upon graduation, in 1845, he settled in Marthasville, soon to become Atlanta.[21]

It will be seen, therefore, that the "Father of Medicine in Atlanta" was a young man when he began to minister to the needs of the two hundred or so members of the pioneer community. It was not long, however, before his name became a byword in this part of Georgia. He was a typical example of the doctor of the old school, well versed in the medical lore of the day, not learned in the science of medicine, but knowing a great deal about the art of medicine. If his knowledge of science was not vast, he possessed a priceless asset in his intimate familiarity with human nature, and while he could not always bring healing into the sickroom, he could bring comfort and cheer.[22]

Sometime after his arrival, Dr. Gilbert built a home on the present site of the Western Union Building and an office nearby, on Marietta Street between Broad and Forsyth streets.[23]

It is doubtful if the office was subjected to frequent use. Dr. Josh either road horseback or traveled in a small sulkey, carrying his medicines and meager equipment in a pair of saddlebags. A whistle was an important accouterment, for it was blown as he traveled about to let prospective patients know that he was available and would probably not pass that way again that day. He kept no books and rarely presented a bill, yet he prospered modestly. Indeed he was never known to have turned away from a sick but impecunious citizen and his friends were legion.[24]

Dr. Gilbert was a member of Atlanta's first board of health and continued to practice in the city until the War Between the States. He then moved to the old family home on Sandtown Road at Cascade Springs, where he spent the remainder of his life.[25]

Before the end of 1845, Dr. Gilbert had competition in Atlanta, for in December of that year another young doctor was attracted to the community. He was Stephen Terry Biggers, a native of Abbeville District, South Carolina, and graduate of the Macon [Georgia] College of Medicine. These two pioneer physicians divided the local practice for a couple of years.[26]

Atlanta's first barrister, like its first doctor, was born in South Carolina, but was brought to Decatur in his infancy, his father, John Simpson, becoming the pioneer wagon and carriage builder of De Kalb County. The son, Leonard C. Simpson, read law under Judge William Ezzard, and, after practicing in Decatur for a few years, moved to Atlanta. After incorporation of the city in 1847, he became a member of its first city council in 1848 and later served as city attorney. His greatest interest, outside of the law was Masonry, in which he established an enviable record of service, and in which fraternity he rose to Deputy Grand Master in 1858. The community suffered a distinct loss when L. C. Simpson died, one day after attaining his thirty-ninth birthday.[27]

Dr. Joshua Gilbert is buried at Utoy Church near Fort McPherson, and Leonard C. Simpson in Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta. As the local pioneers in their respective professions, their epitaphs are worthy of preservation in these pages. They follow:

I will soon be in Heaven
and it will be Rest! Rest!
Sweet Rest for me.
Dying words of
DR. J. GILBERT.
"The Beloved Physician"
A devoted Husband,
an affectionate father,
a faithful friend,
an earnest christian.
Born Sept. 17, 1815.
Died April 18, 1889.

"Peaceful be thy silent slumber
Peaceful in the grave so low."

LEONARD C.
SIMPSON
Born Sept. 15, 1821,
Died Sept. 16, 1860.

First W. M. Atlanta Lodge
1847
Deputy Grand Master, 1858
Member First Atlanta
City Council, 1848
City Attorney, Atlanta.

Erected by Atlanta Lodge
No. 59, F. & A. M., 1918.
Alvin L. Richards, W. M.

What we do for the dead or to the living for their sakes is Charity, the noblest portion of humanity.[28]

Simpson Street in Atlanta remains also as a tangible, if somewhat drab memorial to the city's pioneer exponent of Blackstone and Coke.

The Town of Marthasville, soon to become Atlanta, took a long and significant forward step in the autumn of 1845 when the Georgia Railroad was completed to the terminus of the Western and Atlantic. Its first train, a freight, arrived on September 14th and the following day a passenger train completed its run from Augusta.[29]

The survey of the Georgia Railroad from Covington to Marthasville had been completed on December 23, 1843, under Lemuel P. Grant, civil engineer, assisted by Frederick C. Arms. Since attaining his majority in 1842, young William F. Adair, of the Morgan County Adairs, had been connected with the railroad, laying iron between Madison and Marthasville, and serving also as rodman. It fell his lot to bring the first train into Marthasville over the Georgia Railroad on September 14, 1845, as relief engineer. His story of this event, as published in the Atlanta *Constitution* of November 12, 1893, follows:

"THE FIRST TRAIN IN—

". . . I continued laying iron until I reached Stone Mountain. On August 15, 1845 Mr. Arms put me in charge of the construction train as conductor. My run was from Covington to where the track was being laid. I retained the position of conductor until the road was completed to Marthasville.

"On September 14, 1845, while at Decatur, I was notified that the track would be finished to Marthasville that afternoon and was ordered to go there that night. I had ten cars of iron for the W. & A. from Augusta.

"While at Decatur my engineer, John Hopkins, was taken violently ill. My orders were postive. I must be in Marthasville that night. Nothing daunted I mounted my engine, the 'Kentucky', and pulled open the throttle. We rolled out of Decatur at 8 PM, and I halted the engine right where the car shed now stands in Atlanta,[30] a few minutes before 9 o'clock.

"The road being new and rough, I ran very slowly from Decatur to Marthasville. Having heard that the train would probably reach the town that day, a great many people had come down from the country above Marthasville to see the novel sight. Campfires were gleaming in the woods where the capitol now stands.[31] My train was allowed to stand where I had stopped it all night. The W. & A. R. R., having a track laid one mile beyond the Chattahoochee,[32] I ran my train out there and threw off the iron.

"While I was out beyond the river, a passenger train came in from Augusta, with William Orme as conductor. I coupled on two cars containing stock and left for Augusta at 12 o'clock on the 15th, and the passenger train followed me at 2 o'clock PM, for the same destination. . . ."

Three eye witnesses to the arrival of the Georgia Railroad's first passenger train on September 15, have left accounts of the event. One was a passenger, one an interested citizen of Marthasville, and the other was the locomotive engineer who brought it in.

Richard Peters, superintendant of the railroad and a passenger, presumably non-revenue, says:[33]

"I made my first visit to Atlanta in a two-horse vehicle belonging to the stage-line. I started from Covington, passing through Decatur to the present site of Atlanta, thence to Newnan by the Whitehall Road. This was in 1844. My next visit was in 1845, on the completion of the Georgia Road. Judge

King [John P., President of the railroad] and Mr. Arms were with our party on the first trip made by our engine. We made the run from Augusta in twelve hours and slept in the office of Mr. Garnett,[34] upon mattresses laid on the floor. The lower rooms were used as an eating house by Dr. Joseph Thompson, the owner of a hotel in Decatur, from which place he brought his supplies. It was dark when we arrived, and Judge King unfortunately fell in a well which was being dug. It was only ten feet deep and we soon pulled him out, but he was highly disgusted, and for years would not buy Atlanta real estate."

Jonathan Norcross, a citizen of Marthasville for little more than a year and firm believer in its future, viewed the completion of the Georgia Railroad with both interest and satisfaction. During an interview with Henry W. Grady, published in the *Constitution* of June 12, 1881, he said:

". . . The dullness was broken by the coming of the Georgia Road . . . and the first train reached us in September, 1845. It was an occasion of great excitement for the few people then living here. Mr. John P. King was on the first train and came very near being killed. There was a large open well near the depot, and when the cars came rolling up, the excitement was so great that a man fell in the well, was drowned, and nobody knew it till the next morning. Mr. King himself stumbled and very nearly fell in the well, but was caught by a bystander. The coming of this train gave Atlanta her first 'railroad boom,' and we thought then that we were fixed for good. The building of the State road had been recommenced, so that we had two roads. Then we had stage lines running to Griffin and beyond, and to Newnan, La Grange, Montgomery and New Orleans, under control of Dick Peters. The arrival of the stages every evening in those primitive days was the great occasion of the day. Mr. Peters made a great deal of money, by carrying the Mexican war travel [1846] over those very stages, and much of it was carried through Atlanta. . ."

The recollections of the Messrs. Peters and Norcross are in agreement that Judge King had an unfortunate encounter with a well. Yet here is an instance where two credible witneses are in disagreement upon an interesting point. Did the Judge fall in, or did he not? The present writer, at this late date, must leave the question to the reader, or to, as yet, undisclosed evidence.

Engineer William Hardman (1811-1890), native of Manchester, England and resident of Augusta, Georgia for most of his life, was interviewed by the Augusta *Chronicle* in 1885.[35] Relative to the initial run to Marthasville, he said in part:

"Twelve miles an hour was rapid traveling. We used to run to Union Point. I can't remember the date (of the road's completion). I was the engineer on the first train that made the trip (to Marthasville). Edward Boulineau and William Coons were my firemen and Richard Peters, superintendent of the road, and Chief Engineer Edgar Thomson went along the trip. We arrived at Atlanta about sundown.

". . . We slept on bear skins in some shanties erected by railroad hands. Railroad magnates didn't have palace sleepers to live in those days."

To a question of whether he had a headlight for night running, Mr. Hardman replied:

"Not much, we went in the dark. We couldn't see anything. We had no whistle, no cowcatcher, and what's more, no cab! The engineer stood on his platform without any shelter of any kind, without any light ahead of him, without any steam whistle to sound a note of warning . . . our brake was a long lever pole, working in the same way brakes are now used on large wagons. We had to bear down on our lever, stand on it together with the fireman, to stop the engine, and it locked only two wheels. . . ."

For a time after the completion of the Georgia road, William Hardman was in charge of its Atlanta shops. However he was soon transferred to Augusta in the same capacity, remaining there the rest of his life.[36]

William F. Adair has identified the conductor of the first Georgia Railroad passenger train as William Orme.

William Priestley Orme (1819-1893) was to become a noted Atlantan. He was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, the son of a ship captain operating for Stephen Girard of Philadelphia. His mother was a granddaughter of the distinguished scientist, Dr. Joseph Priestley.[37] W. P. Orme first came South in 1842 to visit his uncle Richard M. Orme, Editor of the Southern *Recorder* at Milledgeville. After assisting his uncle for a time he entered the service of the Georgia Railroad, first as conductor, later as freight agent. In later years he became secretary and treasurer of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, a position he held until failing health compelled his retirement.[38]

The brothers of W. P. Orme, J. Chambers, Richard, Dr. Francis H., Aquilla J., and Dr. Lewis Orme were all well known Atlantans. William P. Orme married Julia, daughter of Dr. Joseph Thompson. Among their six children was the late Joseph Thompson Orme (1860-1913) Vice-President of the Lowry National Bank, and distinguished both in the financial and social life of Atlanta.[39]

At the time the Georgia Railroad reached Atlanta there were no ticket agents at stations. Conductors sold all tickets, collected fares, and reported at the end of each trip. They rang a bell at each station to notify the engineer when to start and the passengers to get aboard. So it happened that conductor Orme had an assistant on that first run of September 15, 1845. He had a good man. His name was George Washington Adair, whose name was later to become almost a synonym for real estate in Atlanta. Adair was 22 at the time and was working on the railroad to earn some ready money with which to pay debts incurred in the securing of a legal education. After three and a half years as a railroad man he was enabled to pay his debts in full, with interest at 7%.[40]

George W. Adair and William F. Adair were first cousins and both were born in Morgan County, Georgia, the former in 1823 and the latter in 1821. Their respective fathers, John F. and Jones Adair, were brothers. William F. Adair gave up railroad service in 1870 because of impaired health, and for some time thereafter lived at Flowery Branch, Georgia. He eventually returned to his birthplace in Morgan County near Madison, where he died March 9, 1909 at the age of 87. He is buried in Morgan County at Prospect Church near Fairplay.[41]

Chief Engineer J. Edgar Thomson was able to report, on July 22, 1846, that the Georgia Railroad, begun in 1834, was completed. He said:

"The road is now done. The total cost of the road and outfit was Three million, three hundred and sixty-nine thousand, eight hundred and fifty-six dollars and forty-two cents. The link was closed that connected Augusta with the State Road, and the Athens Branch was completed. . . ."

Indeed this pioneer railroad had traveled many hard and weary miles before the idea formulated in James Camack's library at Athens, Georgia, was brought to fruition.

Whether the people of Decatur welcomed the coming of the Georgia Railroad or not, the fact remains that no time was lost in laying out a new street to connect the Public Square with the depot.[42] The Inferior Court, on July 9, 1845, two months before the railroad reached Marthasville, received the following report:

"In accordance with the precept to us directed we the commissioners appointed by the Inferior Court of the County of De Kalb for the purpose of viewing and laying out a street from the Public Square to the Georgia Rail Road Depot near this place, beg leave to make the following report, that we met this morning and after viewing the ground situate between the publick Square and said depot, have located said Street, commencing at the South West corner of Green B. Butler's Stable (commencing said Street with the McDonough Street at that point) and running the North East line of said street straight through the South end of the Street, running by Doc Hamilton's Shop thence to said depot, distinguished by stakes and to be opened sixty feet throughout, south west of said line, as the most suitable ground for the accomplishment of the object so earnestly prayed for by the petitioners.

J. B. Wilson, Commissioner
E. Mason, "
John Collier, "
J. W. Kirkpatrick," " [43]

Trinity Place in Decatur now follows the exact, or at least the substantial course of this original street from the square to the depot.

The actual running of trains into Marthasville by the Georgia gave great and immediate impetus to the Western and Atlantic. On September 16, 1845 Chief Engineer Garnett wrote to J. Edgar Thomson from Marietta:

"I sent down a large load of passengers this morning. . . . Depend upon it, 3 cents per mile would increase our receipts."[44]

On the same date he wrote Cave Johnson, Postmaster General, that,

"The state work of Georgia, the Western and Atlantic Railroad is now opened and in full operation to this place [Marietta], a distance of 20 miles. . . . Our road will within thirty days be opened for 28 miles more."[45]

In his Annual Report to the Governor dated October 22, 1845, Chief Engineer Garnett wrote:

". . . the first 20 miles went into operation on the 15th day of September, 1845, and the receipts of the first month have been upward of $1,100.00. It was not generally known that the road would be opened, because apprehensions of a disappointment prevented the necessary steps for making it known."[46]

The Legislature passed an act, approved December 27, 1845, which provided "for conducting the business of transportation on the Western and Atlantic Rail Road, and for other purposes." Among the provisions of the act was authority vested in the Governor for the appointment of such Agents as, in his opinion, may be necessary to manage and superintend the business of the railroad.[47]

The Western and Atlantic, though it didn't go far, was off to the races. Its pioneer locomotive, the Florida, now had a job of work to do. With two railroads in operation, all kinds of people came to the new town, including adventurers and speculators. It soon came to resemble the border towns of the West, rough, noisy, energetic.

While the quiet of Marthasville was being dissipated by the hissing of steam and the ringing of locomotive bells, the De Kalb County grand jury for the September term submitted to his Honor Judge Edward Y. Hill, its presentments. Slaves and municipal regulations called forth the following comment:

". . . We will not refrain from expressing our opinion that many of the evils complained of arise from the unlawful practice of some of our citizens leaving to their slaves their own time, and permitting them to live to themselves without the proper restraints from their owners. Their residences are not unfrequently the places for disorder and the hiding places of villany, and we hope the owners of all such slaves will discontinue to violate the law in this regard. . . .

"The Grand Jury are impressed with the belief that too much indifference is felt on the subject of the municipal regulations of the towns of Decatur and Marthasville, especially as it may affect the security of the public property in those Villages. The trees in the Court house square are liable to injury, and although an ornament to the Village, are left without proper security from wagons or horses. . . ."

Robert M. Brown, Foreman

Archibald Tomlinson
John Dabbs
William Gober
William R. Brandon
Robert Hollingsworth
George Thomas
Berryman D. Shumate
John Stephenson
William T. Beall
Henry Hollingsworth

John Simpson
Thomas J. Stevens
Eli J. Hulsey
Hiram H. Embry
Tunstal B. George
John Mason
John L. Bradley
John Bryce
Thomas J. Akins
Shadrick Farmer[48]

There is little doubt that the Town Commissioners of Marthasville were in complete agreement with the grand jury relative to its observation about indifference to municipal regulations. All of the regulations inaugurated by the Commissioners had been greeted with indifference.

With the advent of railroad service, business in Marthasville began to show some signs of life. William Whitaker, a native of Buncombe County, North Carolina, opened the first cabinet shop in '45, wherein he manufactured furniture for the living and coffins for the dead.[49]

Jonathan Norcross, reminiscing in 1871 said: "When the Georgia Railroad was finished, or about that time, there was a change made in the kind of currency used for change. The usual way of keeping accounts was by 6¼ cents, 12½ cents, 37½ cents, etc., fractional parts of a cent being used.

I was the first man that commenced keeping accounts by the Federal money system, cents, dimes, half dimes, etc., and I believe that Atlanta was the first place in Georgia this change was inaugurated. The first merchants that came here were men of small capital, almost no capital at all, and who were not able to give credit. Trade was always brisk. A good deal of trade always centered here, but our merchants never sold on credit, and the consequence was that from the first we established a cash trade, and a result of this system was we always sold our goods for a less price and realized less profits.[50]

It was also at this time that the local real estate market became active. Prior to 1845 only three of the seventeen lots in the Arms survey of the Mitchell property made in 1842 had been sold. Now purchasers began to come forward. As indicative of realty values in the late Marthasville and early Atlanta period of our history, the sale of all seventeen of the lots is herewith briefly recorded.[51]

Lots 1 and 2, being the block bounded by Peachtree, Wall, Pryor and Decatur streets, to F. C. Arms. The deed was never recorded, but Arms sold the lots on May 10, 1844 to the Georgia Railroad for $500. (Deed Book H. 348)

Lot No. 3, on March 26, 1845 to Elliot and Hodge. This is the triangular block presently bounded by Peachtree, Decatur, Pryor and Edgewood Avenue. On May 31, 1845 Elliott and Hodge sold to George W. Collier that part fronting on Peachtree Street, running back along Decatur Street and Edgewood Avenue 36 feet, for $130. (Book L. page 19). Until recent years this property was owned by the heirs of Mr. Collier.

Lot No. 4, on December 10, 1845, to Willis Carlisle and W. P. Anderson for $200. (Book L, page 108). This property is now occupied by the Ten Pryor Street Building.

Lot No. 5, on January 10, 1846, to A. B. Forsyth for $150. (Book L, page 148). This lot fronted on Decatur Street and ran back to what is now Exchange Place. Just east of Lot No. 4. It was originally ½ acre.

Lot No. 6, ½ acre, on February 23, 1846, to William Bell, for $200. (Book L, page 173). Just east of No. 5.

Lot No. 7, ½ acre, on November 9, 1849, to John Bird, for $150. (Book N, page 28) Northwest corner Decatur and Ivy streets.

Lot No. 8, ½ acre, on September 29, 1846, to John Kile, for $150. (Book M, page 198). Southeast corner Decatur Street and Central Avenue.

Lot No. 9, ½ acre, on December 26, 1844, to James Loyd, for $200. (Book M, page 83). East side of Central Avenue at foot of Wall Street.

Lot No. 10. Apparently reserved for the Georgia Railroad.

Lot No. 11, about ½ acre, on March 21, 1846, to Jonathan Norcross, for $200. (Book L, page 168). Present site of First National Bank Building, Marietta and Peachtree streets.

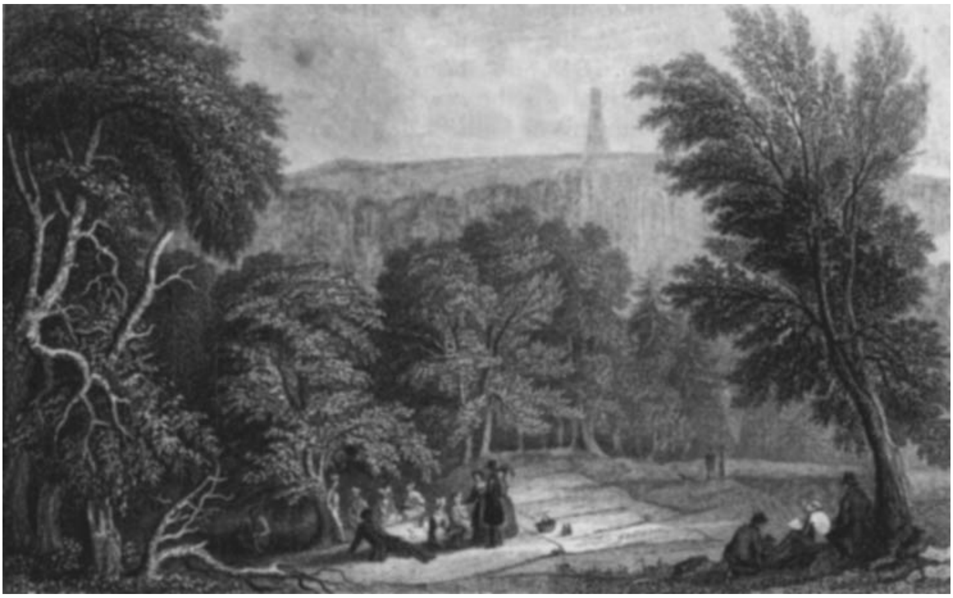
Lots 12 and 13, in 1845 to Mrs. Mary A. Dougherty for $400. One acre (deed to Patrick Connally, her father). Present site of Peachtree Arcade. The property is still owned by the heirs of Mrs. Dougherty.

Lot No. 14. Apparently reserved for Macon and Western Railroad.

Lots 15 and 16, 2 acres, on October 15, 1845 to Richard Peters for $175. (Book H, page 543). On November 12, 1845, Mr. Peters sold these lots, extending along the south side of the railroad tracks between Whitehall and Forsyth streets to the Georgia Railroad. The railroad company then ran stage-coaches from Atlanta to various parts of Georgia and Alabama, and used the land for the stabling of its horses.

Lot No. 17, on May 24, 1850, to W. J. Mann, administrator of William Carroll, for $50. (Book M, page 52). Present site of the new Constitution Building, northwest corner Forsyth and Alabama streets.

Thus will be seen, that all the capital one needed with which to buy choice, centrally located property, during the middle and late 1840's, was the modest sum of $150 or $200.



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)
From an engraving in Graham's Magazine, 1845.

Rock Mountain (north side).
Stone Mountain was generally known in this period as "Rock Mountain" and sometimes as "New Gibraltar."

The basic reasons for the directional irregularity of Atlanta's downtown streets have been explained in Chapter 20, covering the year 1842. A contributory reason was set forth by Jonathan Norcross in 1871.[52]

"The reason why the streets are so crooked is, that every man built on his land just to suit himself. The charter that was broken up by 'Cousin John' and those associated with him,[53] provided for the appointment of commissioners to lay out the streets, but they were not allowed or would not exercise their duties, and so every man built upon his own land just as he pleased. There were only a very few that believed there would ever be a town here at all. That was one reason why the commissioners would not act, they did not think it a matter of much importance."

Atlanta simply did not evolve from a basic plan of development. It was like "Topsy." It just "growed."

The provincial name of Marthasville barely survived the arrival of the Georgia Railroad, for sometime between September 15th and October 15th, 1845 our city presented itself to the world as Atlanta. Richard Peters, then superintendent of the Georgia Railroad, initiated the change, but unable to think of a suitable successor name, called upon his friend and associate J. Edgar Thomson, for ideas. In a letter to W. R. Hanleiter, of Atlanta, dated May 9, 1871, he tells us what happened:[54]

"Dear Sir—In answer to your note asking me to give you some information relative to the naming of Atlanta, I will state that in the year 1845, J. Edgar Thomson, Esq., the present distinguished Civil Engineer and Railroad King, was the Chief Engineer of the Georgia Railroad from Augusta to its junction with the Western and Atlantic Railroad, then known as Marthasville. At that date I was the Superintendent and resident Engineer of the finished portion of the road from Augusta to Covington, and it became a part of my duty to arrange the freight lists, and to notify the public of the opening of the road from Covington to Marthasville.

"I was not satisfied with the name given a point that, even at that early day had become somewhat notorious by the Hon. John C. Calhoun, who, on passing through to the Memphis Convention, prophecied a great city in the future. I wrote to Mr. Thomson, who then resided in Madison, asking him to think of a name that would suit the place better. His reply was in substance as follows: "Eureka—Atlanta, the terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad—Atlantic masculine, Atlanta feminine—a coined word, and if you think it will suit, adopt it." I was delighted with the suggestion, and in a few days issued the circulars adopting the name, and had them very generally distributed throughout Georgia and Tennessee, and at the next session of the Legislature, the act of incorporation was changed by inserting Atlanta in place of Marthasville.

Yours truly,

RICHARD PETERS."

Some ten years after writing to Mr. Hanleiter, Mr. Peters had occasion to elaborate the subject:

"Something of a sensation," he said, "was created by the Georgia Railroad circulars carrying the name Atlanta in lieu of Marthasville. There were protests that the railroad authorities had no warrant or power to substitute a strange and alien name for one solemnly nominated in a legislative charter. But, as the railroad circular did not purport to be an official city document and no law could be cited that prohibited a railroad company from labeling its own depots, those protests evaporated. The leaders of Atlanta were easily reconciled to the change when they had once gotten the answer to their first astonished query, 'What does it mean?' I took pains to explain that to them, and we readily agreed to ask the legislature to amend the charter by eliding Marthasville and inserting Atlanta. The change was made at the ensuing session."

"Did not some of the publications of the period print the name as Atalanta?"

"They did. There were editors and writers then who were addicts of classic mythology. When they first encountered the name Atlanta, some of them jumped to the conclusion that it was a misprint, or typographical error, and supposed they had corrected it by printing 'Atalanta' instead. There were others who volunteered to explain the new name as a derivitive from Atalanta, the goddess of fleetness and strength, and to applaud her as 'the fit prototype of a worthy name-sake!' All of which, of course, was very amusing to those of us who had knowledge of the framing of the name by Mr. Thomson and had engineered its adoption in lieu of Marthasville."[55]

Jonathan Norcross, at a meeting of The Atlanta Pioneer and Historic Society in 1871, had his say in the matter.

"I recollect distinctly how the name of Atlanta was given to this city. It was formerly called Marthasville, and was also known throughout the State as Whitehall. I had a conversation with J. Edgar Thomson about it, and he said that he was going to call the depot ATLANTA in connection with the Western and Atlantic Railroad. He said he did not care what they called the town, but he was going to call the depot Atlanta, and he did so, and the freight all came marked ATLANTA, and very soon the town came to be known as ATLANTA. It was not named after the goddess Atalanta, and only the most ignorant people called it by that name. I recollect the matter distinctly. Atalanta had nothing to do with it."[56]

As in the case of Marthasville, the Post Office Department acted before the legislature and changed the name of the office to Atlanta on October 15, 1845. George Washington Collier was Postmaster at the time, having succeeded Elzy B. Reynolds on June 7, 1845. Apparently the Post Office Department was not sure of itself, because on December 22, four days before the legislature made the change official, the name of the office was changed back to Marthasville. Finally however, on January 31, 1846, the Department got in step with the times and adopted the name Atlanta for the office permanently.[57] It is highly probable that during this period of indecision, Postmaster Collier was, to say the least, confused.

The Legislature came to the rescue of the railroad men and the Post Office Department before the year was out by the following action:

AN ACT to change the name of Marthasville, in De Kalb County to that of Atlanta; also, to change the election precinct now held at the house of Charner Humphries, known as the Whitehall precinct, to Atlanta.

SECTION 1. Be is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same. That from and after the passage of this act, the name of Marthasville, in De Kalb County, shall be changed to that of Atlanta.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the election precinct now established by law at the house of Charner Humphries, known as the Whitehall precinct, be and the same is hereby changed to Atlanta.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That all laws and parts of laws militating against this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

CHARLES J. JENKINS
Speaker of the House of Representatives

ABSALOM H. CHAPPELL
President of the Senate

Approved December 26th, 1845

GEO. W. CRAWFORD
Governor[58]

The man who suggested the name Atlanta was never a permanent resident of the town. John Edgar Thomson (1808-1874), was born in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. His railroad career began at nineteen. After service on the Philadelphia & Columbia Railroad and upon the Camden & Amboy, Thomson was appointed Chief Engineer of the Georgia Railroad. He remained in that position until 1847, when he accepted the position of Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania Railroad. On February 3, 1852, John Edgar Thomson was elected President of the Pennsylvania, the third man to hold that position. He held the office until his death.[59]

The name change from Marthasville to Atlanta met with recorded objection from only one quarter and it came eight years later. That Ex-Governor Wilson Lumpkin regarded the change as something of an affront to his family is set forth in a letter to his daughter, Martha, the former honoree, written from Atlanta on October 25, 1853.

". . . It was incorporated by the Legislature as the town of Marthasville. A post office was established by the Federal Government and a Post Master appointed by the same for the town of Marthasville,—and it would have been that name yet but for the predominating low voice of envy.

"I do not recollect of ever having bestowed a single thought on the name of the place previous to the substitution having been introduced as hereinbefore stated—nor do I believe that I ever should have thought of the place bearing the name of myself or any of my family if it had not been presented and waged by those who had the best right to move in the matter.

"Mr. Mitchell was the owner of the land, and he alone had the right to lay out a town upon the same and give it a name to suit himself, nor do I deny the right of the Legislature to alter and change the names of our towns and counties. . . . They may yet in some paroxysm change or rub out the great city of Atlanta and substitute or reinstate your name. But whether they do it, or not, is a matter of small consequence, since your honored promotion in this matter was acquired without seeking, and was lost without a charge or whisper of lessened merit or worth on your part or your family. And you may always remember that one of the most distinguished towns in Georgia was located by your father, and by its original and first proprietor named in honor of yourself 'Marthasville.' The name being stolen from you will never change the facts appertaining to the case.

"I think, however, the Legislature had just the same right to change your name as they had the right to change the name of the town called after you,—they would have acted more consistently to have changed your name, as well as your town, to that of Atlanta.

Most Affectionately
Your father
WILSON LUMPKIN."[60]

While "the low voice of envy" had nothing to do, insofar as the record shows, with the name change, Wilson Lumpkin was certainly one man who had a right to speak his piece. Without his active interest in, and promotion of, the Western and Atlantic Railroad, there well might have been no Terminus, no Marthasville, and no Atlanta.

Richard Peters, in his letter to W. R. Hanleiter, referred to the prophecy of John C. Calhoun. Mr. Calhoun was indeed the second noted individual to predict a bright future for Atlanta. Alexander H. Stephens had done so in 1839, with even less tangible evidence upon which to base a prediction.

Upon his retirement from the State Department in March, 1845, Calhoun returned to his plantation home, Fort Hill, near Pendleton, South Carolina, for a six months uninterrupted stay. During the fall he received the welcome news that he had been chosen as a delegate to a "South-Western Convention" to be held in Memphis, Tennessee during November. The object of the convention was to discuss and to promote unity in the development of the economic resources of the South and West. This was a matter dear to Calhoun's heart. He left Fort Hill with enthusiasm, his immediate destination being his son's plantation in Alabama. En route, probably in October, he passed through Atlanta, a place not unknown to him for he had watched the railroad development in this section from afar with great interest.[61]

After a short stay with his son, Mr. Calhoun proceeded to New Orleans, where he was lavishly entertained. The remainder of his trip to Memphis was made by boat, up the Mississippi River.

In the course of his address to the convention, in November, the eminent South Carolinian said:

"What then is needed to complete a cheap, speedy and safe intercourse between the Valley of the Mississippi and the Southern Atlantic Coast is a good system of railroads. For this purpose the nature of the intervening country affords extraordinary advantages. Such is its formation from the courses of the Tennessee, Cumberland and Alabama Rivers, and the termination of the various chains of the Allegheny Mountains, that all the railroads which have been projected, or commenced, although each has looked only to its local interest, must necessarily unite at a point in De Kalb County, Georgia, called ATLANTA, not far from Decatur, so as to constitute one entire system of roads, having a mutual interest each in the other, instead of isolated rival roads."[62]

Though Calhoun did not live to see his prophecy fulfilled (he died March 31, 1850), its accuracy has been fully vindicated.

NOTES—CHAPTER 23

[1] Commission Book, Dept. Archives and History, Atlanta.

[2] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 32.

[3] Albert B. Saye, *A Constitutional History of Georgia,* (Athens, Ga., 1948), 187; *Ga. Laws,* 1845, p. 18; 1 *Ga. Reports,* 5.

[4] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 187; *Ga. Laws,* 1845, p. 18.

[5] 1 *Ga. Reports,* 20-21.

[6] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1845, Book B.

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] Rabbi David Marx, "History of the Jews of Atlanta", *The Reform Advocate,* Nov. 4, 1911; "Garrett's Necrology".

[9] Marx, "Jews of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[10] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1846, Book B.

[11] Marx, "Jews of Atlanta", *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[12] Marx, "Jews of Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 376.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] Clarke, Reed, Martin, Pioneer Citizens' History. *Cf.* Meta Barker, "Schools and Teachers of Ante-Bellum Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XVI (Jan. 1939), 31.

[16] Barker, "Schools and Teachers", *loc. cit.*

[17] Book A.

[18] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850; Williams' *Atlanta City Directory,* 1859.

[19] Reed, *Atlanta,* 305.

[20] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 131.

[21] Frank K. Boland, M.D., "Atlanta's First Physician", *A.H.B.,* VII (June, 1933), 14

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] Obituary, *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 19, 1889.

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] Reed, *Atlanta,* 305; Obituary, Dr. S. T. Biggers, *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 22, 1903.

[27] T. C. McDonald, *Free Masonry and Its Progress in Atlanta and Fulton County, Georgia* (Atlanta, 1925), 10-11. Hereafter cited as McDonald, *Free Masonry.*

[28] "Garrett's Necrology".

[29] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 12, 1893.

[30] Old Union Depot, between Pryor and Central Ave.

[31] Referring to present building, completed in 1889.

[32] The track had been laid to a point 13 miles north of Marietta, but was not in use at the time of Adair's arrival.

[33] Extracts from his "Recollections", reprinted *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Mar. 22, 1936.

[34] The original two-story frame building erected by C. F. M. Garnett, Chief Engineer of the W. & A.

[35] Reprinted in part, *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 25, 1938; *Cf.* Cumming, *Georgia Railroad,* 68-69.

[36] Cumming, *Georgia Railroad,* 68-69.

[37] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 16, 1893.

[38] *Ibid.*

[39] "Garrett's Necrology".

[40] Biographical Sketch of George W. Adair, *Atlanta Constitution,* July 27, 1873.

[41] "Garrett's Necrology".

[42] Cumming, *Georgia Railroad,* 65.

[43] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 317.

[44] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XX, 73.

[45] *Ibid.*

[46] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 29.

[47] *Ga. Laws,* 1845, p. 165.

[48] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1845, Book B.

[49] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 116.

[50] Hanleiter's *Atlanta City Directory,* 1871, p. 26.

[51] Mitchell, "Atlanta's First Real Estate Subdivision", *loc. cit.,* 6-14. The Deed Books referred to are those of De Kalb County.

[52] Hanleiter's *Atlanta City Directory,* 1871, p. 29.

[53] Referring to an abortive attempt to secure a city charter prior to 1847.

[54] Letter quoted, Hanleiter's, *Atlanta City Directory,* 1871, p. 33.

[55] Sam W. Small, "My Story of Atlanta", Chap. VII, *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 7, 1925.

[56] Hanleiter's *Atlanta City Directory,* 1871, pp. 30-31.

[57] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb.

[58] *Ga. Laws,* 1845, p. 91.

[59] H. W. Schotter, *The Growth and Development of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company* (Philadelphia, 1927), 33.

[60] *A.H.B.,* XI (Sept. 1937), 48-49.

[61] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 38; Margaret L. Coit, *John C. Calhoun, American Portrait* (Boston, 1950), 386, 413.

[62] *John C. Calhoun's Works,* XI, pp. 276-277. Quoted by Ralph Smith, "In Crackerland", *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 12, 1933.

CHAPTER 24

1846

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX is remembered chiefly as the Mexican War year, the war having officially begun in May. Its impact upon De Kalb County was relatively mild, much more so, in fact, than the Indian wars of the preceding decade. Two reasons for the lack of excitement locally were the remoteness of the conflict, and the small requisitions made upon the state by the War Department for troops.

The requisition called for one regiment of infantry or riflemen to be composed of volunteers. All designated companies were to meet in Columbus, because of its advantageous position for the routing of volunteers to Mexico. While many military organizations over the state offered their services, the first ten companies to meet the War Department regulations were chosen.[1]

Each of the ten companies was composed of between 80 and 100 men, commanded by a captain elected by the company members. Total strength of the regiment, as assembled in Columbus by June 20, 1846, was 910 men, divided into two battalions of five companies each. While this number filled the requirements of the requisition, the newspapers voiced the opinion that more troops would be needed.[2]

While the regiment from Georgia was to see a year of service in Mexico, it was never once to join battle with the enemy. Yet its ranks were sadly decimated by disease. Under date of October 11, 1846, Major Charles J. Williams wrote from Monterrey: "The ranks of our regiment have been terribly thinned. We marched across the Chattahoochee River with 910 men and officers, and today, the Regiment numbers all told 600. Though we have discharged many for sickness and disability, still we have deposited nearly 70 beneath the chaparral all in the short space of four months. . . ."[3]

The Regiment remained at Monterrey guarding money trains and supplies. Later it marched to Tampico, and then to Vera Cruz, but did not, at any time, come within shooting distance of the Mexican Army. It remained comparatively inactive until the service time of the men expired in June, 1847, when the straggling remains of the Regiment returned to Georgia. The shattered companies were wined and dined in their respective communities. The men mustered out of service numbered 450; the number of deaths, 145; discharged, approximately 315.[4]

While none of the ten companies that composed the Georgia Regiment were from De Kalb County, two of them came from nearby. They were the Canton Volunteers, from Cherokee County, and the Kennesaw Rangers, of Cobb County.[5]

Captain Kennedy Gramling (1813-1884), of the Canton Volunteers, formerly of Spartanburg County, South Carolina, was long a prominent citizen of Cumming, Georgia, and is buried in the Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta. He was the father of the late John R., Thomas A., and William S. Gramling, well known wholesale shoe and dry goods merchants of Atlanta.[6]

The roster of the Kennesaw Rangers, comprising 92 men, included several future Atlantans, two of whom served as mayor and one of whom was the father of a future mayor. Captain Allison Nelson, son of the founder of Nelson's Ferry across the Chattahoochee, became mayor of Atlanta in 1855, while Private Cicero C. Hammock filled the same position in 1873, 1875 and 1876.

John B. Goodwin, son of Private Williamson H. Goodwin, served as Atlanta's mayor in 1883-84 and 1893-94. Other members of the Kennesaw Rangers, all privates, who later settled in Atlanta, were Cicero H. Allen, Abner Sweat, Thomas Shivers (the stage coach driver), John Tiller, and Lewis J. Parr, the latter one of the two musicians in the company.[7]

A De Kalb County casualty of the Mexican War, though not a member of the Regiment or Companies just cited, was William McLeod, son of Malcolm McLeod, one of the original settlers. William died in April, 1848, en route home from service in Mexico. He is buried in New Orleans.[8]

On January 8, 1846, a completely new slate of officers moved into the De Kalb County Court House. They were: Thomas J. Perkerson, Sheriff; Daniel Stone, Clerk, Superior Court; Henry B. Latimer, Clerk, Inferior Court; Stephen Terry, Surveyor, and William Johnston, Coroner.[9]

All were pioneer and well-known citizens of the county. The home of Thomas J. Perkerson still stands at Sylvan and Perkerson roads in South Fulton County. Daniel Stone had served the county in its infancy as Clerk of the Inferior Court from 1824 to 1826 and of the Superior Court from 1826 to 1832. Henry B. Latimer gave his name to Latimer Street in Atlanta. Stephen Terry was Atlanta's first real estate dealer, and William Johnston, an extensive land owner in Cross Keys District, was the owner of Johnston's Mill on the north fork of Peachtree Creek. County affairs were in good hands.[10]

County finances, however, were at low tide. The Inferior Court took drastic, if insufficient, action:

"It is ordered by the Court that H. B. Latimer, clerk of the Inferior Court of De Kalb County proceed to sell to the highest bidder the two knob locks recently taken from the Court House doors for ready money and pay the same over to the County Treasurer, this 4th May, 1846.

L. S. MORGAN
J. N. BELLINGER } J. I. C."
LOCHLIN JOHNSON

The locks were sold on May 5th for $1.25.[11]

The Grand Jury for the March term, 1846, threw some light upon the financial situation when it said:

"We regret an unusually large delinquent tax list, which is owing to the large amount of tranchant (*sic*) persons thrown in the County last year in consequence of the publick (*sic*) works, a large number of them being returned by the receiver of defaulters."

JOHN JONES, Foreman.

Jesse J. Jones
William Hazelett
Thomas C. Bolton
Edward Talliaferro
Edwin Plaster
James F. Montgomery
William A. David
John McDonald
Christopher Connally
John W. Fowler
John Elam

James Phillips
William Akers
Moses W. Davis
Abraham Housworth
Zachariah R. Jones
Simeon Smith
Ezekiel Reeve
Joel Herring
Handy Harris
Samuel Burdett[12]

A certain amount of tax money was devoted, in 1845 and 1846, as in recent years, to relief. Yet the subject then was not the paramount issue it is today. Qualifications for relief were considerably more strict and recipients included only the aged and infirm, the mentally deficient and the physically impaired. No tax money went to the indolent and lazy, or to the jobless by choice. Following is the equivalent of the De Kalb County "relief roll" for 1845 and 1846:

"A List of the paupers of De Kalb County in the years 1845 and 1846 as returned by E. B. Reynolds, Overseer of the Poor, to John M. Smith, his successor.[13]

Amount paid to each in 1845		*Amount paid to each in 1846*	
Roanah Wamble,	$ 4.00	Roanah Wamble,	$ 18.00
Sarah Biffle,	4.50	Sarah Biffle,	18.00
Elizabeth Gant,	7.50	Elizabeth Gant,	13.00
Rachel Wates,	6.50	Rachel Wates,	15.00
Sarah Wiggins,	10.00	Sarah Wiggins,	15.00
Judy Moore,	10.00	Judy Moore,	14.00
Wineford Golding,	10.00	Wineford Golding,	15.00
Wm. McEver	7.00	Wm. McEver,	13.00
John Bookout,	7.00	John Bookout,	13.00
John Ewings,	7.00	John Ewings,	8.00
Sucky Breedlove, (to S. House)	0.00	Sucky Breedlove, (S. House)	100.00*
		Esther Cash,	10.00
		Alsey Lagget,	9.00
		Jincey Sprayberry,	3.00
	$73.50		$264.00"

* Samuel House, of Cross Keys District, in whose ante-bellum brick home the Peachtree Golf Club now makes its headquarters, came to the aid of Sucky Breedlove, as will be seen from the following:

"Georgia,
De Kalb County } By verbal order of the Inferior Court, 'Old Suck', commonly called Sucky Breedlove, was on the first Tuesday (7th day) of April, 1846, let to the lowest bidder at public outcry until 25th of December next, and was bid off by Samuel House at Five Dollars Eighty-seven and a Half Cents per month, to be fed and clothed and care taken of her—this April 7th, 1846.

H. B. Latimer, C. I. C."

Sucky had the misfortune to be blind. Whether she was white or colored is not disclosed by the record.[14]

The near completion of the Macon & Western, originally Monroe, now Central of Georgia Railroad, into Atlanta during the summer of 1846, called for a relocation of part of the Newnan Road from White Hall to near the present site of East Point. The report of the commissioners charged with this responsibility is interesting. It follows:[15]

"We the commissioners appointed by the Inferior Court of De Kalb County to locate a portion of the Newnan Road[16] to commence at White Hall, respectfully report as follows viz:

Commencing at White Hall & running along the way it now runs on the West Side of the Rail-Road, entirely until it passes Mr. Jacob White's House, running some 150 yards beyond the end of said White's Lane to the Post-Oak (Marked) then across the Rail Road, thence on the East Side of the R. Road as the Road now runs to where the Howell's Ferry Road crosses the R. Road, then across the R. Road, thence on the West Side as the Road now runs to near the 11 mile Branch—and leaving the old Road at a Red Oak (Marked) and marked out about 150 yards intersecting the old Road near the said 11 mile Branch, thence along the old Road to Alexr. Ratteree's, then on the right of the old Road but very near the same, intersecting the old Road at a Chestnut tree near the South corner of Mr. A. Connally's fence (according to the marks). Then along the old Road without any other alteration.

William Willis
Aaron B. Knight
Robert Orr
Noah Hornsby
} Commissioners."

Anent the subject of roads generally, the Grand Jury for the September term, 1846, commented as follows:

"As to the public roads in some parts of the County are in very bad condition—in Dean's District, and the roads towards Campbellton South West of Atlanta, and we would recommend the proper authorities to have them put in better condition immediately."[17]

Charles Latimer, Foreman.

Prior to the summer of 1846 those few citizens of Atlanta who kept themselves informed through the medium of newspapers, had to depend upon outside sources, for none were published locally. But with two railroads in operation and a third about to begin service, the fourth estate descended upon the community, and during July and August Atlanta became a two-newspaper town, as it is today.[18]

Atlanta, having this far existed in local journalistic darkness, it was quite appropriate that its first paper should be called *The Luminary*. The initial issue of this pioneer four-page weekly appeared July 14, 1846, when the name Atlanta was still so new that some editors over Georgia referred to the paper as the *Atlantic Luminary*.[19]

This did not disturb the Rev. Joseph S. Baker, M.D., D.D., the editor, or his partner, Thomas Wilson, who set up their Washington hand-press in an office on the west side of Whitehall Street, a few doors south of Alabama Street.[20]

Although Editor Baker announced that the *Luminary* would be "neutral in politics and religion," its contemporaries referred to it as a "Democratic organ." However, it might be inferred that an editor of Dr. Baker's strong convictions could not long remain neutral upon religious matters. While there was very little local news in the *Luminary*, it loomed up splendidly on the great political and moral questions of the day. The greater portion of its space was devoted to miscellaneous clippings.[21]

Sometime prior to December 9, 1846, Dr. Baker sold the *Luminary* to Joseph B. Clapp and Frederick W. Bartlett.[22] Soon thereafter it became the subject of a letter from Thomas Holly Chivers to his fellow poet, Edgar Allen Poe. Writing on February 21, 1847, Chivers said:

"I sent you a tale sometime ago, entitled, I believe, 'The Return from the Dead.' I wish you to look over it and correct any errors you may see in it, and envelope it as at first, and direct it to Frederick W. Bartlett Esq., Atlanta, Georgia. . . . He is a great friend of mine and the Editor of the *Atlanta Luminary.*"[23]

Clapp sold his interest in the *Luminary* early in 1848 to Charles L. Wheeler who changed the name to the *Tribune.* Under this mast the paper continued until August or September of that year, when it passed out of existence.[24] It will thus be seen that Atlanta's first newspaper venture lasted three years, with as many editors.

Our pioneer newspaper proprietor, Joseph S. Baker, was born in Liberty County, Georgia, in 1798. After attending both Yale and Hampden Sidney colleges he studied medicine and practiced his profession for some years. Though reared a Presbyterian, he later became interested in the Baptist faith and eventually joined that church. His interest became so keen that he abandoned medicine for the Baptist ministry. From 1843 to 1849 he served as editor of the *Christian Index,* during part of which time he also edited and published the *Atlanta Luminary.* Dr. Baker died at Quitman, Georgia, in 1877. It was said of him that he put a very modest estimate on himself as a preacher. He was earnest and practical, but not eloquent, and his sermons were not always systematic. He displayed much more ability as a writer than as a preacher.[25]

The *Luminary* was hardly a month old when, in August, 1846, W. H. Royal and C. H. Yarbrough established the *Enterprise,* Whig in politics and also a weekly. Its office was on the east side of Whitehall, a few doors south of Alabama Street, just across the street from its competitor. In 1847 the *Enterprise* was sold to C. R. Hanleiter and ceased publication later that year. It was mentioned in the *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel* on May 29, 1847.[26]

While Atlanta's first newspapers were short-lived and no copies are known to exist, the fledgeling city could now boast a press of its own.

The most spectacular event of 1846, and the most far-reaching in its effect upon the growth of Atlanta was the arrival of the first train over the former Monroe, then Macon and Western Railroad, on October 1st.[27]

The first annual report of the M. & W. R. R., commenting upon the completion of the road, said:

"The Monroe R. R. was purchased and passed into the possession of the Macon & Western R. R. Co., on the 6th day of January last [1846], and since that time timber has been provided to rebuild the entire track and the work completed, so that the road was opened in its entire length from Macon to Atlanta, 101 miles, on the 4th day of September, and regular freight and passenger business commenced on the first day of October."[28]

It will be remembered that the Monroe Railroad, predecessor of the Macon and Western, had, in 1839 and 1840, erected an embankment across the low ground in the vicinity of the present Atlanta Gas Light Company storage tanks, for the purpose of connecting with the original W. & A. terminus near Foundry Street. This point was also to be the northern terminus of the Monroe, or Macon & Western R. R.

Moving of the W. & A. terminus to the State Square posed a terminal problem for the M. & W. upon its arrival in Atlanta. Daniel Tyler, President of the road, was prevailed upon by various citizens of Atlanta to bring his line around to the State Square, provided Samuel Mitchell would donate sufficient land for a depot. The cooperation of Mr. Mitchell was, as usual, readily secured.[29]

On April 24, 1846, Samuel Mitchell, for and in consideration of the increased value of his property at and near Atlanta from the construction of the Macon and Western Railroad and the location of their depot on and upon the same, conveyed to the Macon and Western Railroad Co., so much of lot No. 77 in the 14th district of originally Henry, now De Kalb county, as may be occupied by said railroad . . . and bounded as follows: On one side by the Western and Atlantic Railroad, on another side by the lot conveyed to the State of Georgia, and on the other side by Alabama Street, and on the fourth side by Whitehall Street, except one-fourth of an acre reserved at the corner of Alabama and Whitehall streets. . . .[30] The deed was witnessed by Samuel G. Jones and Charles F. M. Garnett and is recorded in the clerk's office of De Kalb County, Book L, page 52.

As a result of Mr. Mitchell's generosity, the Macon and Western joined the Western and Atlantic and Georgia railroads at the State Square, and proceeded to the erection of a rock freight depot athwart what is now Pryor Street just south of the railroad tracks. It was destroyed during the war in 1864 and never rebuilt. Instead, shortly thereafter, Pryor Street was opened across the tracks, where the depot had been. In order to reach the State Square the Macon and Western constructed the line curving northeast from the present site of the Terminal Station and skirting the Central of Georgia freight station and the western end of Alabama Street. Thus was completed, in 1846, Atlanta's downtown steel triangle.

Jonathan Norcross, interviewed by Henry W. Grady for the *Atlanta Constitution* on June 12, 1881, described the entry into the city of the Macon and Western.

"After the Georgia road, what was the next step in Atlanta's railroad development?

"The building of the Macon and Western. This road had been started from Macon as the Monroe road and had failed. It was then taken in hand by another company and was finished to Atlanta. This gave us our second 'railroad boom,' and it was tremendous, I can tell you. This was the time that the first railroad whistle was ever heard in Atlanta. The engines on the Georgia and State roads were little fellows without any whistles. But the engine on the Macon road had a real whistle, and it made a great stir when it was first heard in Atlanta.

"Sounded mighty nice to you, didn't it?

"Nice? Why, you don't know. I shall never forget it. It was a clear, calm night, and the whistle commenced blowing way out by the Whitehall. I lived near where the West Point depot now stands[31] and the minute I heard it I started on a full run for uptown, waving my hat above my head and shouting. Lord! It just lifted us out of our boots. It was a good large whistle—none of these little penny pipes—and it could be heard everywhere. When I got to the depot I found everybody in town was on hand, and there was more enthusiasm than I ever saw in Atlanta. The engineer blew the whistle for all who wanted to hear it, and it was late before the crowd dispersed.

"This railroad boom helped the city along, didn't it?

"Oh yes, there were probably twelve new homes built on the strength of it, and several people moved into the town. I believe that the real growth of Atlanta began right then. For the first time people began to have confidence in our judgment about it.

"There was a great fear that the Macon road would hurt us rather than help us. We were afraid that it would spoil our wagon trade and carry the produce and trade of the country around us to Macon and Savannah. Right then, out of that necessity, was born the jobbing trade of Atlanta. Macon was a great deal the largest place, for we still had but a few houses, probably fifty in all. We knew that we had to fight for our trade or lose it, and commenced bidding for it. We got our supplies from East Tennessee, through Charleston, and we soon found that the Macon road had helped us instead of hurting us. From that time forward we moved on with more confidence.

"Who furnished the money to build these roads?

"The State furnished the money for the State road. The money to build the Macon and Western after the failure of the old Monroe road, came from Holland, through the influence of the New York houses that bought it up. The Central [Savannah to Macon] was built by New York money. The Georgia road was the only one that was built entirely with the money of Georgia subscribers. No money was imported for this."[32]

Boom times for Atlanta had indeed started. Samuel Mitchell had Allen Pryor survey the balance of his 202½ acres (Land Lot 77) into lots and gave the streets to the public. Lemuel P. Grant, then residing in Decatur, did the same with Land Lot 52. Reuben Cone and Ammi Williams did likewise with Land Lot 78. And soon afterward Judge Ezzard, the administrator of the Hardy Ivy estate, did the same with Land Lot 51. These four land lots of 202½ acres each, cornering at the present Trust Company of Georgia Building, formed, with the subdivisions thereof, the basic plan of the City of Atlanta.[33]

Of necessity the railroads wanted traffic for their sustenance and the town wanted trade and travel. They combined their energies and enterprising spirits to boost each other. New citizens began to accumulate and enter into business engagements. Denizens of the regions round about who were in reasonable reach of the railroads began to make Atlanta their marketplace.

The drovers of hogs from east Tennessee and horses and mules from Kentucky found their way through the erstwhile Cherokee Indian country. Farmers and planters came to Atlanta to replenish their live stock, to purchase other supplies, and market such of their produce as the trade of the town, consuming and export, demanded.

The building of the city went forward substantially and all doubts of its permanency and prosperity faded from the minds of the pessimistic. Men came in who believed that Atlanta would grow rapidly as a business center, and that factoring enterprises could be undertaken safely and operated profitably.

A vital need of the community was met in 1846 with the opening of two adequate hotels, The Atlanta and Washington Hall. The former was the larger and more impressive. It was, in fact, the first brick building erected in Atlanta and was built by the Georgia Railroad on city lots 1 and 2, purchased from F. C. Arms in 1844 for $500, being the block bounded by Decatur, Pryor, Wall and Whitehall streets, the latter running south from Decatur Street instead of from the railroad tracks as at present.[34]

The Atlanta Hotel was commensurate with the town's ambitions, rising to a height of two stories with two entrances on Pryor Street and one on Wall Street. Its broad rambling galleries, in the ante-bellum style, stood as a prophetic monument of the city that was to be. Standing in the midst of ample grounds, it became a favorite loitering place of both leisurely citizens and strangers.[35]

This hostelry was fortunate, during its entire career of less than twenty years, in having a genial and popular proprietor. J. Edgar Thomson, of the Georgia Railroad, induced his friend Dr. Joseph Thompson to move up from Decatur in 1846 and become lessee of the hotel. Later Dr. Thompson purchased the property from the railroad for a figure approximating $10,000. The Doctor was a famous landowner and continued to operate the hotel until it was destroyed, with so much of the city, by the Federal army in 1864.[36]

It is interesting to note that the ground upon which the Atlanta Hotel stood and the Kimball House now stands, has been devoted to hotel purposes for more than one hundred years, the only interruption having been from 1864 to 1870, the period between the destruction of the Atlanta and the erection of the first Kimball House. During the interim the lot was vacant.

The Washington Hall, built in late 1846 by James Loyd and kept by him, divided the hotel patronage with its more imposing competitor, The Atlanta. Captain Loyd's hostelry faced the Georgia Railroad and Loyd Street, later Central Avenue, being on land purchased by him in 1844. It was a large wooden building of uncertain architecture since additions were frequently made to accommodate an ever growing patronage. After about a year as active proprietor, Captain Loyd leased his rambling hotel to H. C. Holcombe and Z. A. Rice in October, 1847.[37]

Mr. Holcombe, talking in 1871, had the following to say about his experience as proprietor of Washington Hall:

> "In October, 1847, I leased Washington Hall and kept that hotel until two years from that time. I boarded persons for $12.50 per month. I bought chickens from 6¼ to 10 cents per pair; butter from 8 to 10 cents per pound; eggs from 6½ to 10 cents per dozen. I have bought good beef for 2½ cents per pound; and the first time I paid 6 cents a pound for beef was during a fair held at Stone Mountain. There was not room enough at Stone Mountain, and we had to provide for a good many at Atlanta."[38]

When the lessee's lease expired, the owner renewed hotel keeping, associating with him his son-in-law, Albert C. Pulliam, for whom Pulliam Street in Atlanta is named. On Pulliam's retiring a few years later, Captain Loyd sold the hotel to "Cousin" John J. Thrasher, who later sold to Colonel Benjamin Yancey, at which time E. R. Sasseen became the landlord. Washington Hall suffered the same fate as the Atlanta Hotel in 1864. Several years after the war William Markham, who had acquired the property, built the well-known Markham House, a famous hostelry in its day.[39]

Atlanta's first Post Office, then Marthasville, and under F. C. Arms, as Postmaster, was located in the two-story frame building in the State Square which had been built by Chief Engineer Garnett of the W. & A. R. R.[40]

It has been noted that G. Wash Collier, from out Peachtree Creek way, purchased what is now the "point" at Five Points, then merely the northeast corner of Decatur and Peachtree streets, there being no Edgewood Avenue. One week later he was appointed Postmaster of Marthasville, the third incumbent.

The young appointee, then aged 32, immediately erected a one-story frame building on his newly acquired property, which structure embodied a retail grocery fronting Decatur Street and space for a Post Office opening upon a porch on the Peachtree side and facing down Marietta Street. Collier was all business and did not relish the cluttering of his store by chronic loafers for, there being no free delivery of mail a hundred years ago, a large proportion of the population of country towns seemed to have an inordinate amount of time to merely wait for the mail. Mr. Collier solved this problem with his porch office, thereby leaving his limited store space to bona fide customers.

He did not, in fact, allow himself to be disturbed before the mail arrived, or while sorting it. When the latter task was done and the expectant crowd was assembled on the porch, he took the letters one by one, and called out the names of those to whom they were addressed, disposing of the bulk of the mail in this fashion. When a man's name was called he answered "Here," and pushed through the crowd to receive his mail.[41] Receipts of the post office for Collier's second year in office, 1846, totalled $120.[42]

According to tradition the unusual width of Marietta Street from Peachtree to Spring Street is due partly to Wash Collier's post office. Judge Reuben Cone, of Decatur, moved up to Atlanta in '46 or '47 and built a home on the north side of Marietta Street between the present Fairlie and Cone streets, he having owned the property since 1838, together with most of Land Lot 78.

The original and normal width of Marietta Street did not enable the Judge to obtain an unobstructed view of the post office from his front veranda. Being a man of means and years as well as owner of the intervening property, he simply had the road widened so as to effectuate a clear view. This enabled him merely to step out upon the veranda at mail time and, by pre-arranged signal with Postmaster Collier, ascertain if he had any mail, thereby saving many unnecessary steps.

Henry C. Holcombe, relating his experience as lessee of Washington Hall, made reference to a fair held at Stone Mountain having caused an overloading of local hotel facilities. He was, as a matter of fact, speaking of a series of fairs, held under the auspices of the Southern Central Agricultural Society from 1846 through 1851. Those of 1846, 1847, 1848 and 1849 took place at Stone Mountain; 1850 in Atlanta, and 1851 in Macon.[43] This series of fairs, the first held in De Kalb County or in Atlanta, did much to focus statewide attention upon the Atlanta area.

Their origin is related in a letter from Mark A. Cooper to David W. Lewis, dated Etowah, Ga., 10th March, 1852:

> "Dear Sir: . . . In compliance with your request [for information], I answer, that it is in my power definitely to give you all the information you need. After the extension of the Georgia Rail Road to Atlanta, (then called Marthasville) Mr. John W. Graves, an enterprising citizen of Newton county, Ga., became the proprietor of the site on which stands the hotel at Stone Mountain Depot. He planned and laid the foundation of that hotel. In the beginning of the year during which the first meeting of this Agricultural Association was held (1846), I met with Mr. Graves, in passing from this place down towards Augusta. He informed me . . . of his contemplated hotel, and requested me to aid him in getting up some movement, calculated to add to the notariety and interest of his location at the Stone Mountain. If I mistake not, such a suggestion as I agreed to make him, was presented in detail, at Greensboro, whilst he and I were there attending a sale of negroes.
>
> I stated to him that a meeting or gathering of people at that point, to carry out his views, must be identified with a subject wholly relieved of party association. That Agriculture was the only subject so disconnected. That I believed the time to move it was highly propitious. That several attempts had been made without any marked success, owing, as I thought, to a lack of convenient transportation for persons and products, as well as to a want of variety

in agricultural products. That now the Rail Road had opened the rich valleys of Cherokee to Middle Georgia, the products of this farming region might meet the plantation products at the Stone Mountain, whilst the mass of intelligence from every section would diffuse itself and advance the general welfare. . . . That the Stone Mountain might properly be made the point for such an assemblage as would answer the purpose of a preliminary meeting for the purpose of organizing. Mr. Graves entered into these views, and asked me for a suggestion in detail to start the movement.

I suggested the names of very many distinguished gentlemen, farmers, planters, lawyers, doctors and divines, etc., and proposed to him to address each a letter requesting his co-operation. And that he, Mr. Graves, should take the responsibility to advertise the meeting for the Monday after the 2d Wednesday in August [1846]. Mr. Graves accordingly adopted this suggestion, and received from me a pledge of my hearty co-operation. . . . [44]

(sgd.) MARK A. COOPER."[45]

The organizational meeting of the Fair was held at Stone Mountain on August 7, 1846. Preliminary business was transacted under a tree, just in front of the hotel, the Secretary sitting upon a stump and writing upon his knee. Officers elected were:

Hon. Thomas Stocks, of Greene, President.
R. S. Hardwick, of Hancock } Vice Presidents.
Col. J. A. Whitesides, of Tennessee }
Dr. Thomas Hamilton, of Cass, Corresponding Secretary.
David W. Lewis, Esq., of Hancock, Secretary.
Wm.,M. D'Antignac, Esq., of Richmond, Treasurer.

The subscribers to the Association from De Kalb County were Lewis Towers, James Diamond, John Bryce, William Johnson, John Evans, John W. Fowler, Leonard C. Simpson, Lemuel Dean, Isaiah Parker, Dr. James H. Davison, E. N. Calhoun, Weldon E. Wright, John Glen, Eli Hulsey, James M. Calhoun, and Charles F. M. Garnett, who signed himself "Chief Engineer."[46]

Organization of the Southern Central Agricultural Society was perfected with sixty-one paid members at one dollar each. The first fair, that of 1846, was held in a stand erected by Mr. Graves south of the railroad and in a beautiful grove furnished free by Andrew Johnson, landlord of the Stone Mountain Hotel. The only exhibits offered were a jack and ginnett with their groom, all the property of Mr. Graves.[47]

The following year, 1847, a much more impressive fair was held which, with visitors and exhibits together, nearly filled the ten pin alley just in front of the Stone Mountain Hotel. Visitors were charged ten cents admittance and a few premiums were awarded. The fairs of 1848 and 1849, both held at Stone Mountain, were progressively elaborate and included such outside attractions as P. T. Barnum and his entourage.[48] The Atlanta fair of 1850 will be treated at some length in the subsequent chapter dealing with that year.

Atlanta passed some religious milestones in 1846. The few Catholics and Episcopalians in the town took the first steps toward organization, and the first sermon to be preached here after the name change from Marthasville, was delivered. The latter event took place on May 31. Rev. Francis M. Haygood (1817-1901), an itinerant Baptist minister and brother of Greene B. Haygood, later a respected Atlanta lawyer, was traveling through De Kalb County. He arrived in what he thought was still Marthasville to find that the town had been renamed. He thereupon delivered a sermon, his 230th, the text being taken from the first chapter of the Gospel of St. John, which reads:

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." According to one authority this service was held in the school house.[49]

The engineers primarily responsible for building Atlanta's first three railroads, Charles F. M. Garnett, of the W. & A., J. Edgar Thomson and Richard Peters, of the Georgia, and Samuel G. Jones, of the M. & W., were all Episcopalians, and it is due chiefly to their zeal that this denomination received its early start in Atlanta.

As of 1846, the Diocese of Georgia of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States had been presided over by the Rt. Rev. Stephen Elliott, Jr., its first Bishop, since 1840, there being only 600 communicants in the entire Diocese, of whom about 100 were Negro slaves.[50]

At the 24th Diocesan Convention, held in Athens, Georgia, in May, 1846, the Rev. John J. Hunt, then residing in that town, had been appointed missionary to a mission station composed of Atlanta in De Kalb County, and Jonesboro in Clayton (then Fayette) County. Mr. Hunt entered upon his duties on Sunday, November 1, 1846, and the first Episcopal service held in Atlanta was conducted by him on that date in the home of Samuel G. Jones, located at the southwest corner of Forsyth and Mitchell streets.[51] It was in honor of Mr. Jones, a Virginian, that the neighboring town of Jonesboro, on the M. & W., now Central of Georgia Railroad, was named.[52]

The completion of the Georgia Railroad to Atlanta in 1845 brought a considerable number of Irish Catholics to the locality, many of whom elected to settle in the new community. Among them were Michael McCullough, Terrence Doonan, Peter Malone, William J. Mann, Patrick Cannon, Daniel Dougherty, and Daniel McSheffery.

Two Georgia missionaries, Father John Barry and Father Gregory Duggan, both stationed at Augusta, followed the progress of construction on the Georgia Railroad in order to keep in touch with the workmen. In early 1846, or possibly late 1845, one of them, probably Father Barry, said the first Mass in Atlanta at the home of Michael McCullough, near the intersection of what is now Hunter Street and Central Avenue. Soon the little congregation received monthly visits by a priest, Mass being said in the home of Terrence Doonan.

On the flyleaf of an old and faded record book appears this inscription:

> "I hereby beg Terrence Doonan, of Atlanta, Ga., to keep this register under lock until a resident priest shall take charge of it. He shall be so good as to present it to every priest who, having jurisdiction, shall have administered the holy sacraments in order to make the record.
>
> JOHN BARRY, V.G."

The dedication on the first page reads: "Register of the Catholic Church of Atlanta and the counties which may be attached to that mission." The first date in it is August 9, 1846. From this date it will be seen that the earliest authentic records of any religious organization in Atlanta are those of the Catholics.[53]

Before the year had run its course another church had been added to De Kalb's growing roster. The Stone Mountain Baptist was constituted September 2nd with the following charter members: William Loveless, Charles H. Rice, John Garrett, A. J. Holt, Daniel N. Pittman, John Shackleford, Aaron Cloud, Thomas K. Guess, William Johnson, and the women members of their families. Rev. A. R. Almand was their first pastor.[54]

The rapidly growing importance of the town of Atlanta inspired the creation of a new Militia District in December, 1846. Therefore, the Inferior Court of De Kalb County took the necessary preliminary action and received the following report:

"The undersigned, who were appointed commissioners to take into consideration the propriety of creating a new Militia District in said County including the Town of Atlanta, beg leave to report that they have considered the matter and report that they have selected a line running three ranges off the fourteenth and fifteenth [land districts] to the seventeenth and eighteenth, then taking the line between the seventeenth and eighteenth running north to the Peachtree Creek, down said creek to [land lot] number 111 in the 17th Dist., taking five ranges in the 17th and including No. 111, then taking that line and running South to the present district line between the 14th and 17th, thence East to the beginning. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Atlanta, Dec^{r}. 26th, 1846.

T. J. PERKERSON
JAMES A. COLLINS
MEREDITH COLLIER."[55]

Someone discovered a day or two later that these lines did not put the Town of Atlanta in the center of the new District as intended. Therefore, the following order was passed:

"It appearing to the Court that it is necessary to change the lines of the newly established district in said County so as to include the Town of Atlanta in the centre of said district. It is therefore ordered by the Court that James Loyd of the newly established district, and Edwin Plaster of the same district, and C. M. Connally of 469th Dist., the same being the districts between which the change of lines is proposed to be made, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to lay out said lines so as to include Atlanta as aforesaid. . . ."[56]

The Messrs. Loyd, Plaster and Connally accomplished their objective and the new Atlanta District was assigned the number 1026. Road Commissioners, appointed December 28th, to serve the new District for the ensuing year were Edwin G. Collier, the eldest son of Meredith; Joseph H. Mead, later to become Fulton County's first ordinary, and Alexander F. Luckie, a new arrival from Newton County.[57] Willis (sometimes spelled Wyllys) Buell, a future mayor of Atlanta, was commissioned as first Justice of the Peace of the 1026th District on March 30, 1847.[58] The Town of Atlanta, little more than a year old, had become the center of its own Militia District. In only seven more years, as the City of Atlanta, it was to become a county seat.

NOTES—CHAPTER 24

[1] Wilbur G. Kurtz, Jr., "The First Regiment of Georgia Volunteers In the Mexican War", *Georgia Historical Quarterly,* (hereafter cited as *G.H.Q.*), (Dec. 1943), 301-323.

[2] *Ibid.;* White, *Historical Collections,* 115-120.

[3] Kurtz, "Georgia Volunteers, Mexican War", *loc. cit.,* 311.

[4] *Ibid.,* 312.

[5] White, *Historical Collections,* 115-120.

[6] "Garrett's Necrology".

[7] *Ibid.* For a complete roster of the Kennesaw Rangers, the Canton Volunters and the other eight Georgia companies, see White, *Historical Collections,* 115-120.

[8] Entry in McLeod Family Bible. Shown to Franklin M. Garrett by John B. McLeod, grandson of Malcolm, Sept. 16, 1932.

[9] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[10] "Garret's Necrology".

[11] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1846.

[12] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1846, Book B.

[13] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1846.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] *Ibid.,* 333-334.

[16] Now substantially Lee Street and Murphy Avenue.

[17] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1846, Book B.

[18] The earlier histories of Atlanta, including Clarke, Reed, Martin, and Pioneer's cite 1845 as the year of the first local newspaper. No evidence is offered and it would appear that the date had its inception in someone's faulty memory. Clarke, Reed, and Martin correctly state that the "Luminary" was the first paper, while the *Pioneer's History* credits the "Democrat" with the honor, which is incorrect. No newspapers were published in Marthasville, and files of the first several Atlanta papers are non-existent, or have not come to light.

[19] Ruth Elaine Feldman, "A Checklist of Atlanta Newspapers, 1846-1948." An M.A. Thesis, Emory University, Ga., 1948. Typescript copy, Atlanta Historical Society. Hereafter cited as Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers". In connection with the "Luminary", Miss Feldman quotes: *Augusta Chronicle and Sentinel,* July 21, 1846; *Athens Banner,* July 21, 1846 and *Southern Recorder,* July 28, 1846. *Cf.* Raymond B. Nixon, "Luminary, 1st Atlanta Newspaper Was Established 100 Years Ago", *Atlanta Constitution,* July 14, 1946.

[20] Nixon, "Luminary", *loc. cit.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 406; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 121.

[21] Nixon, "Luminary", *loc. cit.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 406.

[22] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", Chap. III.

[23] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta". *A.H.B.,* XX, 78-80.

[24] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 14.

[25] *History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia,* Compiled for The Christian Index (Atlanta, 1881), 18.

[26] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 14; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 121; Nixon, "Luminary", *loc. cit.*

[27] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 372.

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] Recollections of Jonathan Norcross, *A.H.B.,* I (Sept. 1927), 21.

[30] This reserved lot has been occupied since 1903 by the Atlanta National Bank Bldg., northeast corner Whitehall and Alabama.

[31] In 1881, the West Point freight depot stood at Decatur and Pratt streets. This is the depot to which Norcross referred.

[32] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 12, 1881.

[33] Mitchell, "Atlanta's First Real Estate Subdivision", *loc. cit.,* 13.

[34] *Ibid.,* 10; *City Directory,* 1859; Obituary, Dr. Joseph Thompson, *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 22, 1885.

[35] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 45.

[36] *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 22, 1885.

[37] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 45; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126; *A.H.B.,* I (Sept. 1927), 24.

[38] *City Directory,* 1871, p. 31.

[39] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126; "Garrett's Necrology".

[40] *A.H.B.,* I (Sept. 1927), 19.

[41] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 48.

[42] Edwin K. Large, "The Phenomenal Growth of a Village Post Office," *The City Builder,* Feb., 1926.

[43] David W. Lewis, *Transactions of the Southern Central Agricultural Society, 1846-1851* (Macon, Ga., 1852), VII. Hereafter cited as *Transactions S.C.A.S.*

[44] *Ibid.,* V, VI, VII.

[45] Mark A. Cooper (1800-1885), was the founder of the Cooper Iron Works on the Etowah River in formerly Cass, now Bartow County. The works were destroyed in 1864, during the War Between the States. The late Walter G. Cooper, of Atlanta, was a grandson of Mark A. Cooper.

[46] *Transactions, S.C.A.S.*, 258-259.

[47] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 230.

[48] *Ibid.*

[49] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 39; Obituary, Francis M. Haygood, *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 6, 1901; "Minister's Old Diary Betrays Fact That Atlanta Is Cheating On Age", *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* 1922.

[50] Alex M. Hitz, *A History of The Cathedral of St. Philip* (Atlanta, 1947), 9-10. Hereafter cited as Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip.*

[51] *Ibid.,* 10.

[52] "Garrett's Necrology".

[53] Stephens Mitchell, "A Short History of the Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Atlanta, Georgia", *A.H.B.,* I (Sept., 1927), 28-46; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta Churches Made History", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 9, 1936.

[54] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 16-17, with name corrections by the present writer.

[55] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1846.

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] *Ibid.,* 352; "Garrett's Necrology".

[58] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

CHAPTER 25

1847

CONSTRUCTION of a new De Kalb County Court House, following the fire of January, 1842 became a lengthy chore. Some differences over the work developed between the Inferior Court and G. V. Margerum and W. H. Graham, of Marietta, the contractors. They were finally submitted to a two-man board of arbitration, which handed the following report to the Inferior Court on February 24, 1847:

"Whereas we John Stidham (mason) and Martin Colley (carpenter) being chosen as referees in a matter pending between said Court of the one part, and Margerum and Graham, of the other part, contractors for Rebuilding the Court House in Decatur. We having examined the contract and specifications hereby beg leave to Report. We believe that the manner in which the several branches of the work is executed is up to the contract, with the following exceptions, 1st, the plastering of the rooms on the lower story we consider to be subject to a deduction of $70. Sash in windows in lower story, $15, for lumber not well seasoned upstairs, $20, Total, $105. We also further beg leave to report that we find the following which exceeds the contract. An addition of the Portico, which we consider quite an ornament to the building, $20. Four hearth stones at $6 each, $24. Additional stone steps $10. All of which is respectfully submitted."

John Stidman } Referees
Martin Cooley }

Registerd the 24th day of Feb. 1847.

H. B. Latimer, C. I. C.[1]

The difference of $51. was apparently settled, for the Grand Jury, in its September term, 1847 presentments, made the following heart warming statement:

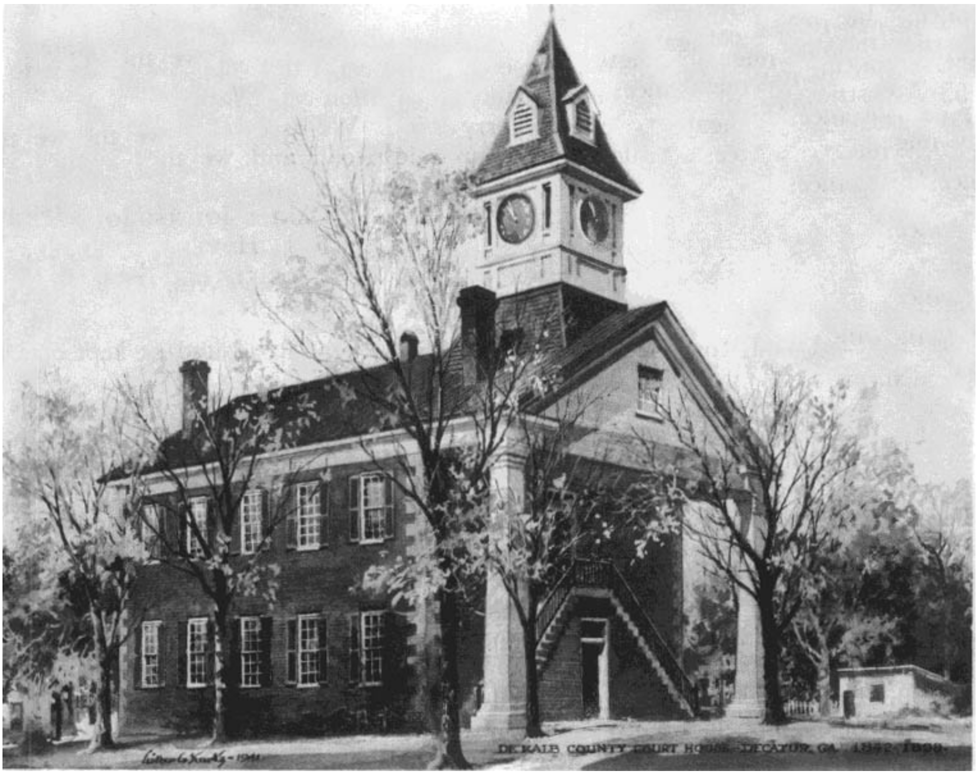
"We are gratified to say to the Citizens of this County that our court house is now paid for, and that of the money raised for that purpose, there is some left after paying for said Court House."

Samuel Walker, Foreman.

John Hardman
George W. Avery
Joseph Willis
Ezekiel A. Davis
Green V. Almond
William P. Mason
Jesse Wood
James Burns
William H. Tanner
Leandrew Biffle
James A. Jett
Simeon Smith
Handy Harris
James B. Robertson
Lemuel Dean
John Cochran
James Smith
Eli J. Hulsey
Robert Ozmer
John Carpenter
Thomas C. Gober
Josiah Power[2]

This courthouse, signed, sealed and delivered in 1847 was to serve the County of De Kalb for 51 years. Finally outgrown and outmoded, it was laboriously torn down in 1898 to make way for a larger building, the immediate predecessor of the present courthouse in Decatur.[3]

Two well-traveled present-day Fulton County roads were opened in 1847. On June 1st the Inferior Court appointed Marat Megee, Claiborn Hawes and Alston H. Green, Commissioners, ". . . to view and mark out a new Road, commencing at Green and Nelson's Ferry and to intersect the Sand Town Road at or near Higgin's Shop on said Sand Town Road."[4] It is the writer's belief that this is what is now called the Fairburn Road, running south from Adamsville and crossing Cascade Road a short distance east of the A. C. L. R. R.


DE KALB COUNTY COURT HOUSE - DECATUR, GA. 1842-1898
1941

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

The second De Kalb County Court House. Built 1842-1847, replacing the original structure destroyed by fire, together with practically all of the county records. Demolished 1898 to make room for larger building. Located on present site of court house in Decatur

On August 3rd the same court appointed Killis Brown, James Burns, and James J. Cowan, Commissioners ". . . to view and mark out a new Road commencing at Atlanta crossing South River at Killis Brown's, thence to the line of Henry County near Thomas Moore's Mills."[5]

This road followed the present course of Capitol Avenue (formerly McDonough Street) and McDonough Road by Federal Prison, thence to the Clayton, then Henry County line at Conley on Highway 42. The mills of Thomas Moore were, in 1847, located at what is now Conley. The plantation of Killis Brown was in the vicinity of the present Southern Railway station known as Constitution.

While new roads were being opened to accommodate the increasing wagon traffic occasioned by the rapid growth of Atlanta, some of the original county roads were declining in importance. One of these was the Nelson's Ferry Road, running west from Decatur. Its decline is mirrored in the following bit of Inferior Court business:

"Georgia, De Kalb County } We, the commissioners of this District believe it to
531st District, G. M. } be our duty to petition your honorable body to take into consideration the Nelson's Ferry Road. We as commissioners believe it entirely nugatory and idle to keep up said Road and we therefore pray your assistance.

Daniel Johnson,
P. F. Hoyle,
Ezekiel A. Davis,
Joseph Pitts.

Ordered, that said Road be recognized as a Settlement Road and be kept open as such.

March 1, 1847."[6]

It was still bargain day for bridges. On December 30, 1847, William R. Rowell was authorized to build a bridge across Nancy Creek on the Pace's Ferry Road, and was to be paid $99.75 for the job, provided he kept the bridge in repair for five years from the time of its completion.[7]

No one, apparently, was willing to assume the task of building bridges across the Chattahoochee River. So the Legislature, in 1847, authorized two more ferries over that stream, one immediately south of De Kalb County, and one just to the north.

Both authorizations were approved on December 24th. By one, James H. Wilson, of Campbell County, and Absalom Baker, of Cobb County, were authorized to establish a ferry across the Chattahoochee River on their own lands.[8] By the other, William H. Jenkins, of Gwinnett County, and Clark Howell, of Forsyth County, were likewise authorized ". . . on the road leading from Cumming in Forsyth County to Atlanta in De Kalb County."[9]

The former, long known as Baker's Ferry, is still remembered by the fact that the main road leading southwest from Adamsville is called the Baker's Ferry Road. The Jenkins and Howell Ferry crossed the river at the approximate present site of Holcomb's Bridge. The old Alabama Trail, still so designated on some maps, crossed the river here. It came through old Pinkneyville and what is now Norcross and Doraville, down the Peachtree Road to Atlanta.[10]

A final bit of Inferior Court business for 1847 is of interest, since it indicates a type of amusement and diversion available in De Kalb County that year.

"Georgia } Received of Barnigan & Kelley, Proprietors, $10., it being the
De Kalb County } County tax for Exhibiting a Caravan of Animals (and side show) for which they are authorized to Exhibit the said Animals and side show

in the said County for 12 months from the date and for so doing this shall be their sufficient license. Given under my hand officially this 14th July, 1847.

H. B. LATIMER, C. I. C."[11]

It is possible that this was one of the attractions at the Stone Mountain Fair of that year.

Substantial religious progress was made in Atlanta during 1847, in that the first house of worship was erected, and two denominations acquired land upon which to erect their respective churches.

During the early part of the year a subscription fund was raised among the citizens for the erection of a non-denominational church and schoolhouse. The result was a small weatherboarded structure with a chimney at each end, facing Peachtree Street upon the lot so long occupied by the old Peck Building and in the triangle now formed by Peachtree, Pryor and Houston streets.[12]

There being no resident pastor, preaching was irregular, although it is said that the first sermon in the structure was delivered by Rev. John S. Wilson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Decatur. At any rate the various denominations were all represented in a small way, and when a clergyman of a particular sect came to town, he "held forth" to those of his church. In this manner the different religious organizations '"took turns" in using the structure as a place of worship until they were able to build separate houses, which several did the following year. During the week a public school was conducted in the building.[13]

Not long after the erection of this modest edifice, there was organized, on the second Sunday in June, 1847, Atlanta's first Sunday school. All denomination united in the organization, which was known as the Atlanta Union Sabbath School. Robert M. Clarke was appointed secretary and treasurer. Among the prime organizers of the school were Edwin Payne, Alexander F. Luckie, and Allen E. Johnson.[14]

Meanwhile both the Episcopalians and Catholics secured the land upon which were to stand their future houses of worship.

On April 13, 1847, the consistently generous Samuel Mitchell, of Pike County, made a deed of gift to Stephen Elliott, Jr., Bishop of the Division (Diocese?) of Georgia, "for the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church in said Division (Diocese?) of Georgia." This deed conveyed City Lot No. 1 in Land Lot 77. Simultaneously Samuel G. Jones, J. Edgar Thomson, Richard Peters and Charles F. M. Garnett raised a fund and purchased a lot "for the use of the Episcopal Church." This lot was exchanged, at its value of $250, for one owned by Lemuel P. Grant, adjoining the Mitchell lot, and in the exchange of properties Grant delivered his warranty deed to Stephen Elliott, Jr. It bore date of June 16, 1847, and conveyed City Lots Nos. 33 and 34 of Land Lot 52. Elliott, individually, conveyed the same property to himself as Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia, in trust "for the use and benefit of the Parish of St. Philip."[15]

Under these conveyances, the Parish of St. Philip acquired a tract of land fronting about 303 feet on the Northeast side of Hunter Street, about 200 feet on the Northwest side of Piedmont Avenue, originally Calhoun Street, about 256 feet on the Southeast side of Washington Street, and about 334 feet on the Southwest side of the right-of-way of the Georgia Railroad; being bisected diagonally by the original line between Land Lots Nos. 52 and 77, running North and South.[16]

In this connection, the Rev. Mr. Hunt submitted an interesting report at the 25th Diocesan Convention, held May 6-10th, 1847, in St. John's Church, Savannah:

"Since the first of November last, I have been engaged in Missionary duty at Atlanta and Jonesboro. Although unable, owing to the distance of my present residence from the field of labour, and the want of a house specially appropriated to religious purposes (the academy at Atlanta being the only building for use and all denominations sharing in its occupancy) to hold services as often as could be desired, it is hoped that by keeping the ground occupied, an opening has been made for future more profitable and satisfactory results to the interest of the Church.... An eligible site for building has been secured.... The number of communicants at the two stations is five."[17]

Though the new Mission had not been visited by the Bishop, progress had been made in Atlanta, and the organization of a Parish was completed on May 2, 1847, which was duly received into full convention with the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Georgia. The first vestrymen of the Parish, who were elected in 1847, were Dr. Needom L. Angier, Samuel G. Jones, Wilson P. Jones, Richard Peters, J. Edgar Thomson and Guy L. Warren. In another year St. Philips was to have its own building.[18]

The first official record of the parish of the Immaculate Conception is found on the Deed Records of De Kalb County. On June 23, 1847, Terrence Doonan conveyed by Warranty Deed to Ignatius A. Reynolds, Bishop of Charleston, Lot 4 in Block 17 in Atlanta, containing one acre, for the purpose of erecting thereon a Catholic Church. On February 23, 1848, Daniel McSheffery deeded Lot 4 in Block 12, of Land Lot 77, containing one acre on the Southeast corner of Loyd Street (Central Avenue) and Hunter Street to I. A. Reynolds, as Bishop of Charleston, and his successors in office, for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a Catholic Church thereon.[19]

At this time Georgia was still a part of the bishopric of Charleston, and the spiritual needs of the widely scattered Catholic population were attended to by its Bishop. But in Atlanta, Catholics were beginning to be found in sufficient numbers to warrant the establishment of a church.[20] A few years later the predecessor of the present Church of the Immaculate Conception was built upon the McSheffery lot.

Education, like religion, made modest progress in Atlanta during 1847. Dr. N. L. Angier, native of Acworth, New Hampshire, and future State Treasurer of Georgia and Mayor of Atlanta, built and opened a small schoolhouse in the edge of the forest near the Southwest corner of Forsyth and Garnett streets. Instruction was given by both the Doctor and his wife. This school was known as Angier's Academy.[21]

In October another educator arrived. He was Dr. William N. White, recently graduated with high honors from Hamilton College at Clinton, near Utica, New York. He came south in pursuit of health, and with a purpose to better his career as a teacher, and his financial condition. Fortunately the Doctor kept a journal, in which, under date of October 21, 1847, he gives us a picture of the town as he saw it then.[22]

". . . The city now contains 2,500[23] inhabitants; thirty large stores; two hotels, that would accommodate 150 each; three newspapers; and two schools, one of them taught by a gentleman, and the other by a lady, who teaches A, B, Cs; 187 buildings have been put up this summer within eight months, and more are in progress. The woods all around are full of shanties, and the merchants live in them until they can find time to build. The streets are still full of stumps and roots; large chestnut and oak logs are scattered about,—but the streets are alive with people and the stores full of trade and bustle. Not a church has yet been built, though the Baptists, Methodists and Episcopalians each have one ready to raise in a short time. Preaching is held in the railroad depot, and in the school-houses or 'academies'—as they are called.

". . . Nearly half the population are northern men. Board is cheap, only $8 a month, and three scholars in the higher branches would board me for a year. There are lots of children, who I am assured would go to a school worth patronizing, and from what I can see I am sure with a good building, in a very short time I could make a thousand dollars a year. But there is the difficulty, the only building I can get is a miserable shell of a thing without ceiling, and it cannot be finished this winter. I have been to all prominent men of the place, who promise their influence, and those who have children, their patronage. . . .

"There are several beautiful springs in the village and the water is good;—the land is rolling. There are not 100 negroes in the place, and white men black their own shoes, and dust their own clothes, as independently as in the north. . . . Carpenters get but ten shillings a day here, and labor commands about the same price as at the north. Tuition is $12, $16, $24 and $32 a year, according to what they study. I have only been here two days and am becoming quite an old settler. The people here bow and shake hands with everybody they meet, as there are so many coming in all the time that they cannot remember with whom they are acquainted. . . .

"Last night I called on Dr. Angier, whose academy I can have for $75 a year. It has a bell, but is quite unfinished, and is merely covered and inclosed. This seems a large sum but it is as cheap as I can expect at present; for it would bring that as a dwelling house. I have conversed with Dr. Thompson, Mr. Norcross, Mr. [Jonas] Smith, Mr. [Allen] Johnson, Mr. [Edwin] Payne and others, who all think it practical to establish myself here on a good substantial basis;—must see Judge Cone, Mr. [James A.] Collins, Mr. [John F.] Mims and make up my mind. . . ."

The following entries from Dr. White's journal pertain to his school:

Saturday, October 23rd. "Went about today and obtained in all twenty-nine scholars—shall have thirty at least to commence with, and as the people are all favorably disposed to me, all I have to do is to sustain myself, which with God's blessing I trust I shall be able to do. . . ."

Tuesday, November 2nd. "Visited Dr. Angier's school and found the pupils very quiet and orderly. . . ."

Monday, November 8th. "Commenced my school and found 25 bright eyed little ones awaiting my coming. I talked to them and heard them read. Classified the scholars in classes as Mrs. Angier had them. . . . The scholars look very intelligent and behave first rate so far. By securing the influence of Dr. Angier it was much easier to get up a school as all his scholars were turned over to me. . . ."

Thursday, November 11th. "I get along finely with my scholars; they are pleasant, well behaved, and all seem to learn. Herman Levi, a little German Jew is one, and I am teaching him English by giving him a German fable to translate into American words. I shall be improved in my German by this practice also. . . ."

Monday, November 29th. "Little Isaac Humphries, one of my pupils, died last night after an illness of but four days. He was a bright and pretty little fellow, and I shall miss him very much indeed. I dismissed school about three o'clock so that we might attend the funeral. I addressed them for a few moments on the subject of his death, and they seemed much affected.

"My little pupils are as docile and affectionate as children can be. I have about a peck of apples from their bountiful donations. I almost always go home with a pocketful, which they lay upon my desk. Herman, a little German, having no apples brought me some cigars.

"There are now two other schools in the place, and a third is about to commence, but fortunately for me they are all on the opposite side of the Augusta railroad, and if any one succeeds, of the whole number I think I shall stand my chance."

Monday, January 17, 1848. "Last week I accepted Richard's proposal to move to Athens and take a partnership with him in the book business and editing the *Southern Literary Gazette.* I think the prospects for the future are very bright. I have spent the week in making arrangements to be free from my school. . . ."

So departed Dr. White for greener fields. He was the only ante-bellum Atlanta pedagogue to leave a first hand account of his local experiences, and for that far sightedness we owe him a debt of gratitude. His subsequent career in Athens seems to have been successful. He wrote and published a valuable book upon southern agriculture entitled *Gardening in the South,* and later both owned and edited *The Southern Cultivator.* On July 14, 1867, he died, age 46, and now rests under a substantial monument in Oconee Cemetery in Athens.[24]

Two firsts for Atlanta during 1847 were the acquisition of a Masonic lodge and a bank.

After having worked under a Dispensation issued April 13, 1847, Atlanta Lodge No. 59 received a charter from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia on October 26.[25]

Two weeks later, on November 8th, William N. White recorded in his journal: "Here in Georgia, Masonry is as flourishing as in the palmiest days. All the state offices, and all the posts on the railroads are entirely monopolized by the fraternity."[26]

On December 31, 1847, the new Lodge held its first election and installation of officers.[27] White noted in his journal the same day: "Friday, December 31st. This evening I attended the installation of officers of the Masonic Lodge of Atlanta."[28]

First officers and charter members of Atlanta Lodge No. 59 were: Leonard C. Simpson, W.M.; Willis Buell, S.W.; Robert M. Clarke, J.W.; James Loyd, Treasurer; H. Wells, Secretary; W. H. Thurmond, S.D.; John W. Weaver, J.D.; Reuben Haynes, Tyler. Eleven Master Masons, as follows: Joel Kelsey, J. H. Mead, J. H. Gellen, William Rushton, M. McDonald, William Printup, C. P. S. Fisher, George G. Smith, William Kidd, Charles H. Wesson and Daniel Holman; one F.C., J W. Evans, and one E.A., A. W. Wheat.[29]

The first report to Grand Lodge was made in October, 1847, in which the following is set forth:

> "Membership Atlanta Lodge No. 59—19 M.M., one F.C., and one E.A.; initiated 10, passed 9, raised 7, admitted 3. Dues paid Grand Lodge $10."[30]

The first lodge rooms of Atlanta's pioneer Masonic organization were the second floor of a two story frame storehouse on the Southeast corner of Loyd and Alabama streets. The ground floor was occupied by Daniel McSheffery, groceries and wet goods.[31]

In the late 1840's banking facilities in Atlanta were limited to agencies, through which exchange and loans could be made by the citizens when so desired. As a matter of fact cash or barter had been the customary way of doing business thus far, and banks were not deemed necessary.

Even so, the first banking agency was begun on a small scale by John F. Mims, Agent of the Georgia Railroad depot in 1847. His principal business was to sell exchange on Augusta, at that time Atlanta's chief market. During the following year, 1848, Messrs. Scott, Carhart & Company, bankers of Macon, established an agency here with U. L. Wright, as manager, and W. J. Houston, then a youth of 17, as cashier. To young Wash Houston fell the distinction of receiving the first deposit, from J. B. Lofton, who strode into the agency with his money in a pair of old-fashioned saddle bags.[32] It was not until the early 1850's that Atlanta passed beyond the agency status in so far as banks were concerned.

Atlanta's third newspaper, following the *Luminary* and the *Enterprise,* was called *The Democrat.* Its editor and publisher was Dr. William Henry Fonerden, originally from Maryland and an enthusiastic supporter of the new Polk and Dallas administration. His newspaper was primarily intended to inform and fire up the "unterrified democracy" of the region, but it perished after some three months from lack of proper nourishment.[33]

Apparently *The Democrat* was established after April 4, 1847, because the following letter from Thomas H. Chivers to Edgar Allen Poe, written that day indicates that Dr. Fonerden was then connected with the *Enterprise*:

> "I had the House-Journal Article published in the Atlanta *Enterprise* and ordered Dr. Fonerden to direct the paper to you. I wrote you to send 'The Return of the Dead' to Bartlett of the *Luminary;* but if you have not sent it to him, send it to Dr. William Henry Fonerden of the Atlanta *Enterpise* as he has written me for something for his paper."[34]

The fourth publishing enterprise in Atlanta was acquired by removal to, rather than birth in, the town. The *Southern Miscellany,* founded in Madison, Georgia, in 1842, moved to Atlanta with its editor, Cornelius R. Hanleiter, on July 2, 1847.[35]

It was published every Saturday as "A weekly family newspaper, devoted to literature, education, agriculture, mechanic arts, news, humor and politics." The price was two dollars per year, in advance. Advertisements cost one dollar per square of fourteen lines for the first, and fifty cents for each subsequent insertion. A liberal deduction was made to those who advertised by the year. The editor added, "All letters must come postpaid to insure attention."[36]

The *Southern Miscellany* was Whig in politics and supported Henry Clay for the presidency. The only local news to be found in its columns is contained in advertisements and legal notices. Some of the advertisements throw light upon the identity of certain of our early merchants and professional men, and indicate the versatility of the former. The following are taken from the issue of December 4, 1847:

A. W. Wheat

Grocer, Warehouse & Commission Merchant, Atlanta, Georgia

Has on hand, and is receiving, a large assortment of Groceries, consisting of Bagging, Rope and Twine, Coffee, Sugar, Salt, Molasses, Rice, Iron &c., which he will sell LOW FOR CASH, or exchange for country produce.

His large and commodious WAREHOUSE is ready for the reception of 2000 bales of cotton, at charges 20 per cent less than the usual warehouse rates of Augusta and Macon; he has also plenty of room in his Storehouses for Bacon, Flour, &c., on consignment.

Washington Hall,

ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

BY H. C. HOLCOMBE & Z. A. RICE.

The undersigned have leased the above establishment for a term of years and take this method to acquaint their friends and the traveling public, that they will spare neither pains or expense to render ALL comfortable who may favor them with a call. The Hall is convenient to the Depot, where servants will be in readiness, on the arrival of the various trains, to take charge of baggage, &c. A share of patronage is respectfully solicited.

Passengers per the Georgia train from Augusta are invited to try ours as a Breakfast house, there being ample time allowed for that purpose before the departure of the other trains.

HOLCOMBE & RICE.

James McPherson & Co.

Wholesale and Retail Booksellers, and Dealers in Stationery, Music and Fancy Goods.

Opposite the Macon & Western R. R. Depot.
ATLANTA, GEO.

Bacon and Feathers

A PLENTY of the same sort left. Shoulders at 8½. Sides and Hams at 10 cents. Feathers as 28 cents. Call at the store of

J. NORCROSS.

New Store and New Goods!

The subscriber has just opened a fine assortment of Goods, recently purchased in New York, consisting in part of

Gunny and Kentucky Bagging, Rope, Twine, Coffee, Salt, Crushed, Loaf and Brown Sugars, Molasses, Swedes Iron, Cast Steel, Nails, Train and Linseed Oil, Blankets, Homespuns, Ladies' and gentlemen's Saddles, Boots and Shoes.

Yarns, Kerseys, Sole Leather, Horse Collars, Riding and blind Bridles.
Trace and Fifth Chains.
Powder, Lead, Shot, Spice, Pepper, Ginger, Indigo.
Madder, Copperass, Saleratus, Blue Stone, Saltpetre, Pearl Starch, Wool and Fur Hats, Caps.
A choice lot of Ready made Clothing.
Gentlemen's fine Cloaks, fine and common Trunks, and a limited but well selected stock of Dry Goods, all of which he will sell low for cash, or exchange for Country Produce, viz: Cotton, Corn, Meal, Flour, Wheat, &c. He solicits a call from ALL.

A. Dulin

Near the stand of J. Norcross, Atlanta, Nov. 20, 1847.

The Atlanta High School

WILL commence its first term at Dr. Angier's Academy on Monday, the 8th of November next, and continue eleven weeks. The patronage is invited of all the well-wishers of a sound and thorough Education. By a sedulous and conscientious attention to the mental and moral improvement of his pupils, the Principal will endeavor to merit the confidence of his patrons, and thus hopes to found on a permanent basis an institution worthy of the place. He bears with him testimonials of character, scholarship and successful experience from his former patrons, and from the faculty of Hamilton College, New York, at which he graduated. He would refer to Rev. Mr. Daniels, of Decatur, and Dr. Angier, E. Payne, Esq., and Judge Cone, of Atlanta.

Terms Per Quarter.

Reading, Writing and Arithmetic	$3.00
Grammar, Geography, History, Composition and Declamation	$4.00
Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, Botany, Geology, Natural History, Rhetoric, Logic and Criticism	$6.00
Mathematics, Latin, German, Greek and French	$8.00

Wm. N. White, Principal.

Atlanta, October 23, 1847.

New and Desirable Goods!

Just the Kinds Wanted!

Everybody Come and See—Come and See!

DON'T go near those Houses whose proprietors are too stingy to Advertise, [Good advice—Editor], or whose goods will not bear recommendation, and who have no pity on the poor Printer [Handsomely expressed—Ed.]. Come where you will find the best assortment in town—consisting of Buggy Springs, Axels, and all other kinds of Iron and Trimmings necessary for Buggies; Cutlery and Hardware of every description; Groceries, Dry Goods, and a great variety of other articles too numerous to mention, making the best assortment in town—all of which were selected with great care in the City of New York, and paid for in cash—except what was bought on credit! Come, and take a look, if you don't buy. It will make you feel good to look at good, handsome and cheap articles.

J. Norcross.

Atlanta, October 30, 1847.

The earliest reference to art in Atlanta is set forth in an endorsement by Publisher Hanleiter of Major Wyllys Buell, and published in the *Miscellany* of December 4, 1847. It follows:

"Portrait Painting

It is not generally known to our citizens, we believe, that there is in our midst, a citizen possessing, among other excellent qualities of the head and heart, the rare genius of the limning art. Such, however, is the case. A visit, a few days since, to the studio of Major Wyllys Buell, in the Masonic Hall, satisfied us of his artistical skill; and, as it is our duty to keep our readers informed of all matters of general public interest, so also is it our pleasure to take a passing notice of the skill and ingenuity of our citizens when they fall under our observation. We know not whether Maj. Buell designs devoting any considerable portion of his time to Portrait Painting; but we would advise those of our citizens who may be desirous of procuring faithful likenesses of their wives, sweethearts, children, or of themselves, to call and examine a portrait of one of our citizens, fresh from the artists's hands, and still upon his easel—not doubting that he will fill all orders with which he may be honored."

No Buell portraits are known to exist. In fact there is no likeness extant, of the artist himself, who, in 1850, was to become Atlanta's third mayor.

Editor Hanleiter was absent when his issue of December 4, 1847, saw the light. He explained this in an obscure notice in that edition:

"The editor having gone to see some of the wonders of the Cherokee region, is absent when this number goes to press."

Less than a month before, the *Luminary* scored a beat on the *Miscellany* by becoming the first to publish local weather forecasts. Dr. White recorded in his *Journal,* under date of November 11th:

"I have bought a thermometer and shall begin taking meteorological observations tomorrow, which will be published in the Atlanta *Luminary.*"[37]

Among the excellent citizens acquired by Atlanta during this period were Richard Peters and the Lynch brothers. The former (1810-1889) was born at Germantown, Pennsylvania, son of Ralph and Catherine (Conyngham) Peters and grandson of the eminent Judge Richard Peters, member of Congress and judge of the United States District Court at Philadelphia.[38]

Richard's connection with the Georgia Railroad and with the operation of various stage lines has already been noted. In 1846 he located permanently in Atlanta, boarding for a time at Dr. Joseph Thompson's Atlanta Hotel. Here Mr. Peters picks up the story himself.[39]

"Here I met his [Dr. Thompson's] eldest daughter, Mary Jane, and, fortunately for me, fell in love with her. We were married on Friday, the

18th day of February, 1848, and from that day to this I have never had any reason to regret my choice. . . . A year before my marriage I purchased from Samuel G. Jones his house and two-acre lot at the corner of Mitchell and Forsyth streets for the sum of $1400. There we resided, and there all my children were born. In 1881 I sold this property for the sum of $18,000 and we removed to Peachtree Street after the completion of our new home.[40]

"To secure a stable and pasture for my cows in Atlanta, I bought near my home on Mitchell Street, some eight or ten acres [running back to the M. & W. R. R.] One of these lots was purchased from me by the Central Railroad[41] and upon it was erected their freight depot.

"In the year 1856[42] I formed a company and built the largest flour mill then in the Cotton States, driven by an eighty horse-power steam engine. . . . In the end this venture proved very profitable as I had bought, in order to secure firewood to run the engine, 400 acres of land on Peachtree Street, paying for it $5 an acre. Portions of this land have been sold for $1,000 to $2,000 an acre. On this tract I have built a new and comfortable home which is deeded to my wife. . . ."

The land about which Mr. Peters wrote, situated on Peachtree Street, and purchased primarily to supply firewood for his flour mill boiler, consisted of Land Lots 49 and 80, both in the 14th District of then De Kalb, now Fulton County, and each containing 202½ acres. He bought Lot 80 from Henry Pope, in December, 1849, for $900 and Lot 49 about the same time from Alexander Ratteree for $1,200. The two lots adjoin, being separated by West Peachtree Street, a land lot line. Present boundaries of the entire tract are: North, by 8th Street; South, by North Avenue East, by Argonne Avenue, and West, by Plum Street and Atlantic Drive, the latter formerly called Kontz Avenue.[43]

Much of this property, some of which is known as Peters Park, was developed by the late Edward C. Peters, son of Richard and President of the Peters Land Company. It was Edward who erected the large residence presently numbered 179 Ponce de Leon Avenue, and occupying the entire square bounded by Ponce de Leon Avenue, North Avenue, Piedmont Avenue and Myrtle Street. Known as "Ivy Hall", it was erected in 1885, at which time Ponce de Leon Avenue, then called Ponce de Leon Circle, was guiltless of any pavement. As a protection from the mud, which was very bad in wet weather, Mr. Peters had a board walk laid from Peachtree Street to his home. When the family heard anyone clumping along on the boards they knew visitors were coming. There was nowhere else for them to go.[44]

Among the prominent buildings and well known institutions located on the land Richard Peters bought more than a hundred years ago for $2100 are the Georgia Institute of Technology, All Saints Episcopal Church, Biltmore Hotel, First Baptist Church, Georgian Terrace Hotel, Ponce de Leon Apartment, Cox-Carlton Hotel, Fox Theater, 800 Peachtree Building, Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Franklin Simon Company, and many others, in addition to hundreds of private homes and apartment buildings.

We shall hear more of Richard Peters and his family as this history progresses.

The five Lynch brothers, Michael, John, Patrick, James and Peter were all born in County Meath, Ireland, and, with the exception of Peter, came to Atlanta in 1847. Peter, the youngest, remained in Ireland awhile longer teaching school. Before coming to Atlanta in the early 1850's he worked for a short time in the store of A. T. Stewart in New York City. The four older brothers all acquired property and built homes in and around the block now occupied by Hurt Park and the City Auditorium. Except Patrick, all became merchants.[45]

With the possible exception of Thomas G. W. Crusselle, Pat Lynch became the first rock contractor in the city. His first quarry was near the present intersection of Central Avenue and Mitchell Street, but when the city began to grow rapidly in that direction, he purchased, in 1854 or 1855, the quarry where the Davis Street plant of the Georgia Power Company is now located. The street leading to this old quarry is quite appropriately known as Rock Street. The basement of the Church of the Immaculate Conception stands today as an example of the handiwork of Patrick Lynch, who died in 1871 before the building was completed.[46]

TRUST
COMPANY
OF
GEORGIA

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society. Photo by Julian Maddox)

Part of the central business district at high noon, April 15, 1947. Photo taken from roof of Hurt Building, looking northwest

As good citizens were acquired during 1847, so also did they expire. Of the latter was Alston Hunter Green, one of De Kalb County's most extensive planters, and who, at the time of his death in June, 1847, left the largest estate thus far administered in the County. The estate was appraised on December 29, 1847, by Thomas J. Perkerson, Charner Humphries and Nathaniel Knight. The personal property alone, including 37 slaves was valued at nearly $24,000. The realty holdings of the deceased were extensive, including many town lots in Atlanta. The plantation, comprising several entire land lots, lay along the Chattahoochee River between the present Bankhead Highway and the Adamsville, or Garrett Bridge Road, and included some of the finest bottom lands in the County. The new Fulton County Airport occupies part of this land.[47]

Mr. Green was born in 1788, and after his marriage to Cynthia Clay, of that well known Alabama family, settled in De Kalb County shortly before 1830. His descendants are many and included the late Dr. Clement C. Green and Mrs. Forrest Adair, Sr., of Atlanta.[48]

Prior to 1870 Hunter Street, west of the present Terminal Station, was called Green Street in his honor, it being one of the roads leading to Green's Ferry, operated jointly by Alston H. Green and Isaac Howell. Hunter Street, east and west was also named for Mr. Green. Greensferry Avenue is another present day reminder of this pioneer citizen. He is buried, together with several members of his family in a private cemetery on the old home place upon an elevation just off the Adamsville Road. The cemetery is enclosed by a rock wall. A substantial monument within proclaims that it is[49]

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
ALSTON H. GREEN,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
JUNE 22ND AD. 1847
IN THE 59TH YEAR
OF HIS AGE

AMICUS HUMANI GENERIS.

The *Southern Miscellany* of December 4, 1847, carried the following notice pertaining to the Estate of Alston H. Green, who died intestate:

Administrator's Sale.

On Wednesday, the 29th day of December next, will be sold at the residence of the late Alston H. Green, deceased, in De Kalb County, the personal property of said deceased, consisting of household and kitchen furniture, horses, mules, jacks and jinnies, cows, hogs, and sheep, wagons, carts, plantation tools of various kinds, a large quantity of corn and fodder, wheat, oats and cotton, and various other articles too tedious to mention. Terms of sale: for all sums over five dollars purchasers will be required to give their notes with good personal security, due 12 months after date—all sums under five dollars, cash. The sale to continue from day to day, until all is sold. The improved lands and ferry will be rented at the same time.

WILLIAM EZZARD, Admr.

Thus were estates disposed of in the 1840's.

Building of the Western and Atlantic Railroad progressed during 1847 so that Chief Engineer Garnett could report to Governor Crawford on October 25:

"The Road went into operation to Resaca by the 8th of April and to Dalton (formerly Cross Plains) by the 22nd of July. The benefits resulting from this extension of the road were fully equal to what was anticipated."

Gross earnings of the line for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1847, were $125,898.96.[50]

Before the year was out steps were taken to insure a fourth railroad for the rapidly expanding transportation center in De Kalb County called Atlanta. The new line, now the Atlanta and West Point, was chartered by the Legislature on December 27, 1847, as the Atlanta and La Grange Railroad Company. The incorporators were for the most part well-to-do planters living along the proposed line of the new road in Campbell, Coweta and Troup counties. Their names were B. H. Conyers, Andrew J. Berry, John Griffin, Brittain Simms, Sr., Hugh Brewster, John Ray, John H. Johnson, Willis P. Menifee, Littleberry Watts, Joel W. Terrell, J. V. Davis, Thomas W. Bolton, Joseph Poythress, Henry West, Edward Y. Hill, Robert R. T. Ridley, John Douglass, William Reid, and James M. Beall.[51]

Atlanta did not secure its fourth railroad without a struggle. The nature of the controversy is described by Jonathan Norcross in his interview with Henry W. Grady.[52]

"After the Macon road came the West Point, didn't it?

"Yes, and right there was a serious crisis in Atlanta's history. The West Point road was projected by the Georgia road, and their first idea was to have it run from Covington. This was the definite purpose and for some time it was considered pretty well settled that it was to be so. Of course the idea was that the Georgia road would force the State road freight intended for the West Point road down to Covington, and thus get a haul on all this freight. I appreciated the fact that Atlanta was the natural railroad center, but was equally sure that if the West Point road went to Covington that our prestige was gone. In discussing the new road, and appealing for help to build it, a new element was introduced into the corporation via a large number of wealthy planters along the line of the road, especially about Newnan and La Grange. I commenced writing articles for the papers, showing that Atlanta was the meeting point of the ridges that must bring the railroads, and that it would be the great city of the future. I printed these articles in every paper that would take them and canvassed the matter thoroughly. When the convention was finally held in Newnan, the stockholders voted to build it direct to Atlanta. When this was done, I felt that the future of the city was assured beyond question. From this time on there was little trouble."

The incorporators of the Atlanta and La Grange held their first meeting at Corinth, Heard County, January 13, 1848, for the purpose of organization. In order to comply with the provisions of the charter, and to construct the road within the time and manner therein specified, it was deemed advisable to take up with the other railroads to the east and west, the matter of interesting them in the project. Other meetings of the incorporators were held at La Grange and Corinth. Books were opened for stock subscriptions at Newnan, La Grange, Campbellton, Franklin and Corinth in the immediate vicinity; also in the counties through which the Georgia Railroad passed, and in Charleston, South Carolina.[53]

Ironically enough, Heard County, of which Franklin is the county seat, and which took considerable initial interest in the proposed railroad, was left off of its line completely. The county, in fact, has never been traversed by any railroad.

The "convention" to which Mr. Norcross referred, was a called meeting held at the courthouse in Newnan on May 24, 1849, at which meeting the organization of the Atlanta and La Grange was perfected. John P. King, president of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company was elected president and the town of Newnan was designated as the site for annual meetings of stockholders each May 25th. Two months earlier, the line to Newnan was placed under construction, and in March, 1849, L. P. Grant, chief engineer, commenced location surveys near Atlanta.[54] Grant, it will be remembered, had done yeoman service in connection with the building of the Georgia Railroad.

Since the Atlanta and La Grange was not completed until the middle '50s, its subsequent history will be related in a later chapter.

While the railroad was being chartered, so also was Atlanta. A previous attempt to secure a charter had resulted in failure. Many of the citizens were decidedly hostile to the assumption of increased expenses and responsibilities attendant upon municipal incorporation. When the more progressive faction sent a committee to Milledgeville to present a petition to the legislature for a charter, the opposition was on hand with a strong lobby to smother the measure. It went over to the next session.[55]

John J. Thrasher, of the opposition, reminiscing in 1871, related the story:

> ". . . The next event of importance is the attempted incorporation of the town. There was a charter procured, but a few of us declared that we would not have such laws as they had made. A lawyer said that he could break up the whole thing for $50 and we paid it, and went on without a charter until the next meeting of the Legislature. This was in 1846, and in the year 1847 they got another. . . ."[56]

Fortunately for the future of Atlanta, the charter was secured in 1847. William N. White, the schoolmaster, attended several meetings leading to the adoption of the charter and made the following interesting entries in his journal:

"Sunday, October 24th. We have in Atlanta as yet no city law or charter. The nights are full of noise and commotion which a city government would easily repress. Last night I was very much disturbed by these noises. No preaching here today. It does not seem like the Sabbath, except that the stores are closed.

"Saturday, October 30th. Was present this evening at the meeting of the citizens of Atlanta to petition for a City Government. Captain [James] Loyd was in the chair. Mr. [Frederick] Bartlett, the printer was the secretary. A committee of Colonel [John] Collier, Dr. [Benjamin F.] Bomar, Dr. [George G.] Smith, Jonathan Norcross, and [Wm. H.] Thurmond were appointed to draft a bill of incorporation for the city. Atlanta now contains 2000 inhabitants, yet everyone does what is right in his own eyes. There is no government[57] and it is wonderful that they are as steady as they are at present; no minister, no church and little preaching; a Sabbath school is in successful operation and that is almost the only religious privilege that is enjoyed.

"I may consider myself one of the fathers of the City;—being present at its birth. A meeting could not be conducted with a more complete disregard to order than the one last night. Half a dozen motions were at once before the house.

"Saturday, November 6th. Attended last night the meeting of citizens to consider the bill of incorporation as prepared by Colonel Collier, which seemed a very well prepared article."[58]

This time the progressive element had better luck. The charter drawn by 32 year old John Collier, who had moved to Atlanta from Decatur on January 16, 1847,[59] was passed by the legislature and approved by Governor George W. Towns on December 29, 1847. By the same act Rome, Georgia, was made the City of Rome.[60]

The act of incorporation contained in all, twenty-three sections, providing for the various functions of city government, such as the power of police and to levy road tax, to fix fines, to license stores, and to collect a tax from amusement halls, itinerant shows, etc.

Section 1 provided that from and after the passage of this act, the town of Atlanta shall be known and called the city of Atlanta, and the authority and jurisdiction of said city shall extend one mile from the State Depot in every direction.

Section 2 provided that within sixty days after the passage of this act, by giving two days notice and on the third Monday in every January thereafter, all free white persons, citizens residing within the corporate limits of said city . . . shall be entitled to vote for a mayor and six members of the city council, in lieu and stead of the commissioners, as is provided in the act to which this is amendatory.

Section 5, among other provisions, stipulated that the Mayor and Council shall have full power and authority to pass all by-laws and ordinances respecting the streets of said city, to open and lay out the same, respecting public buildings, work-houses, market-houses, public houses, carriages, wagons, carts, drays, wells, pumps, springs, fire engines, care of the poor, suppression of disorderly houses, regulation of Negroes and free persons of color, etc.

Section 6 provided for the election, by ballot and by the Mayor and Council, of a marshal, and if necessary a deputy marshal or marshals, clerk of Council and a treasurer.

Section 7 provided for the Mayor's oath of office: "I,
do solemnly swear that I will to the utmost of my ability, discharge the duties of Mayor (or Council, as the case may be,) for the city of Atlanta, during my continuance in office—so help me, God;" and the Mayor, after being so qualified, shall have full power and authority to administer said oath to each member of the Council.

Section 17 provided that the Mayor of said city shall receive for his services the sum of two hundred dollars per year, and that each member of the City Council shall receive a salary of twenty dollars a year . . . out of city funds in the hands of the city treasurer.[61]

So it was that Atlanta was able to celebrate New Year's day, 1848 as the City of Atlanta.

As indicative of the ambition of the young town, it should be noted that while the charter was being drawn up and discussed, a movement was set afoot by Jonathan Norcross and others to have the State Capital moved to Atlanta from Milledgeville. Dr. White recorded in his journal:

"Thursday, December 4th, 1847. Wrote an article on the removal of the capital. Attended the town meeting to take the subject into consideration, and had a hearty laugh at Norcross' report of the committee on this subject. The capital will probably stay where it is for the present.

"Monday, December 6th. A great meeting of citizens was held in relation to moving the capital. I had prepared an article on the center of population and spoke of it to Dr. Bomar Saturday. Today he told me of the meeting, and so I, at his request, promised to read it in the evening if it was called for. I revised it and while the committee was out I was called on, and read the same. And at closing was greeted with a storm of cheers. A vote of thanks was passed and a copy was requested to be placed in the hands of the committee to engraft portions of it in the report; and, in short, I never felt so flattered in my life."[62]

In spite of all the enthusiasm engendered at the meeting, Dr. White was right. The capital remained in Milledgeville for two more decades.

NOTES—CHAPTER 25

[1] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1847.
[2] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1847, Book B.
[3] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 6.
[4] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1847, p. 367.
[5] *Ibid.,* 369.
[6] *Ibid.,* 1847.
[7] *Ibid.,* 343.
[8] *Ga. Laws,* 1847, p. 101.
[9] *Ibid.*
[10] Mitchell, "The Old Ferries and Ferry Roads", *loc. cit.,* 35-42.
[11] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1847.
[12] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 34; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 140; Mrs. Mary Venable Womble, "Condensed History of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* I (Sept., 1927), 21; Dr. Thomas M. Stubbs, "Steady Growth Marks 82 Years of First Methodist Church", *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 3, 1929. The year 1845 has been cited by some writers, including E. Y. Clarke, as the date of erection of the combination church and school. The best evidence, however, points to 1847 as the correct date. The building has been described as a log structure. Whether log or weather boarded seems moot, since no actual photograph of the building has yet come to light.
[13] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 34.
[14] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 140.
[15] Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip,* 10-11.
[16] *Ibid.; Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate A.
[17] Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip,* 10-11.
[18] *Ibid.,* 12.
[19] Mitchell, "Parish of the Immaculate Conception", *loc. cit.,* 31.
[20] *Ibid.*
[21] Barker, "Schools and Teachers", *loc. cit.,* 31; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 133-134.
[22] Dr. William N. White, "Diary and Letters", with Introduction and Notations by William S. Irvine, *A.H.B.,* X (July, 1937), 35-50. Hereafter cited as White, "Diary and Letters".
[23] This estimate was high. Atlanta did not obtain a population of 2500 until 1850. As shown by U. S. Census of that year.
[24] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology".
[25] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 10.
[26] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.,* 45.
[27] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 10.
[28] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.,* 48.
[29] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 10, with certain name corrections by the present writer.
[30] *Ibid.*
[31] *Ibid.,* name corrections by the present writer.
[32] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 137-138, 281.
[33] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 13; Sam W. Small, "My Story of Atlanta", Chap. XII, *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 12, 1925; George Raffalovich, "Notes on Dr. Wm. Henry Fonerden", *A.H.B.,* XXII (July, 1940), 212-217.
[34] Edens, "Founding of Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XX, 80.
[35] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 15.
[36] Facsimile copy of the issue of Dec. 4, 1847 on file, Atlanta Historical Society.

[37] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.,* 45.

[38] Reed, *Atlanta,* 114.

[39] Richard Peters, "Extracts from Personal Recollections". Written about 1882, and published *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Mar. 22, 1936.

[40] Present site of First Baptist Church, between 4th and 5th Sts.

[41] Successor to the Macon & Western.

[42] The correct date may be 1852. *Cf.* Reed, *Atlanta,* 115.

[43] Henry B. Scott, *The Romance of Atlanta Realty, 1860-1920.* The Chamber of Commerce (Atlanta, 1921). Hereafter cited as Scott , *Romance, Atlanta Realty.* Pamphlet, pages unnumbered.

[44] "43 Years in One House", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Dec. 9, 1928.

[45] Katherine Wootten, "The Lynch Brothers", unpublished type-script read by Miss Wootten to members of Atlanta Historical Society, Sept. 25, 1943. On file, Atlanta Historical Society. The late Miss Wootten was a granddaugher of James Lynch.

[46] *Pioneers Citizens' History,* 317.

[47] Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of Alston H. Green, Inventory and Appraisement Book A, De Kalb County.

[48] "Garrett's Necrology".

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 29.

[51] *Ga. Laws,* 1847, p. 178.

[52] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 12, 1881.

[53] "A. & W. P., First was La Grange-Atlanta Road", *Atlanta Constitution* (75th Anniversary Edition), Sept 1, 1942.

[54] *Ibid.*

[55] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 67.

[56] Atlanta *City Directory,* 1871, p. 25.

[57] Apparently the Commissioners had ceased to function.

[58] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.,* 42-43.

[59] Biographical Sketch of Judge John Collier, *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 17, 1873.

[60] *Ga. Laws,* 1847, p. 50.

[61] *Ibid.*

[62] White, "Diary and Letters", *loc. cit.,* 47-48.

CHAPTER 26

1848

ONE month to the day after being chartered, the fledgling City of Atlanta proceeded to the election of officers. So on Saturday, January 29, 1848, great excitement prevailed as 215[1] citizens cast their votes for the two candidates for mayor, Moses W. Formwalt and Jonathan Norcross. Only one polling place was available, Thomas Kile's grocery,[2] on the present site of the William-Oliver Building at Five Points. The number of votes received by the two candidates is not of record, but two days later the following certification was issued:

"Georgia, De Kalb County } We, Edwin G. Collier, a justice of the peace, and Patterson M. Hodge and Francis M. Gray, who are freeholders, and who were managers at the election for mayor and members of the council of the city of Atlanta, and neither of whom being candidates, do certify that said election was held on Saturday, the 29th day of January, 1848, and that Moses W. Formwalt received the highest number of votes for mayor, and was declared duly elected. Given under our hands and seal, this 31st day of January, 1848.

E. G. Collier, J.P.
P. M. Hodge
F. M. Gray"

A like certification was issued at the same time relative to the successful candidates for council. They were Jonas S. Smith, merchant; Benjamin F. Bomar, physician; Robert W. Bullard, cotton dealer; James A. Collins, merchant; Anderson W. Walton, owner of the noted Walton Spring, and Leonard C. Simpson, lawyer.[3]

Justice of the Peace Edwin G. Collier was an older brother of John Collier, who drew up the charter under which the election was held, and of Postmaster George Washington Collier.[4]

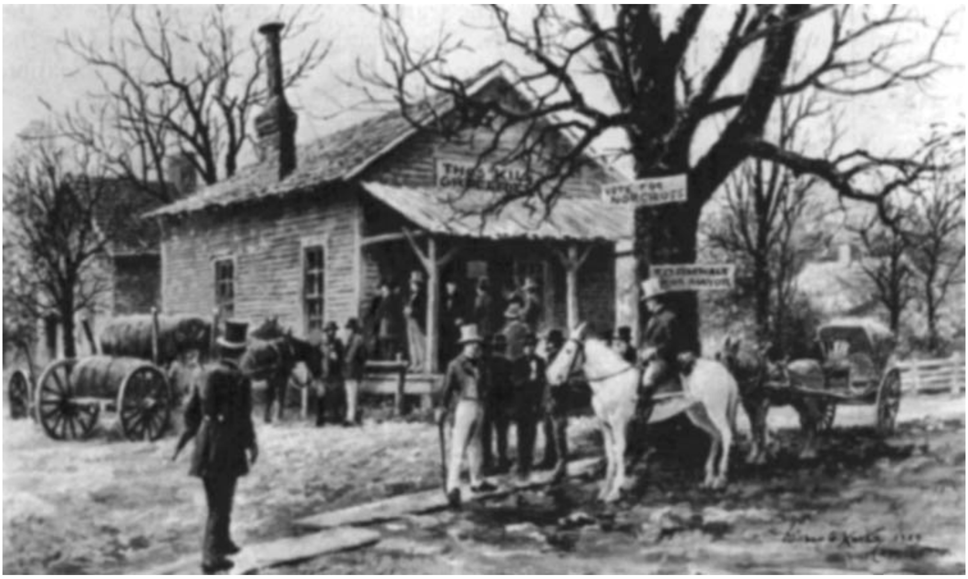
Atlanta's first mayor was a young Tennessean of French descent who, at the time of his election, was only 28. He had come to Decatur, Georgia, from Knoxville, Tennessee, in 1844, and there formed a partnership with John E. Adams in a tin and copper shop. The partnership was dissolved in 1846 and Formwalt moved to Atlanta that year, residing with Dr. Joseph Thompson. Here he re-established himself in the tin and copper business on Decatur Street directly behind Mr. Collier's combination grocery and Post Office. The business was successful and Formwalt was soon selling tinware and copper stills over much of North Georgia.[5]

The first City Council meeting of Atlanta was held Wednesday morning, February 2, 1848, in the store of Jonas S. Smith at the southwest corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets. A committee of two was appointed to draft rules of order for government of the Council. The matter of salaries and bonds for the Clerk, Treasurer, Marshal, and Deputy Marshal was handled. An ordinance committee was appointed to draft an ordinance on licenses. Adjournment was had until 7 P. M. the same day at the same place. L. C. Simpson acted as clerk.[6]

At the evening meeting German M. Lester was elected Marshal, Thomas Shivers, Deputy Marshal, Leonard C. Simpson, City Clerk, and Oswald Houston, Treasurer. Simpson declined the honor and Robert M. Clarke was elected in his stead on February 8th.[7]

A meeting of Council was held Thursday night, February 3, at the store of James Collins, but no minutes exist.[8]

At a meeting held February 9 in the store of Addison Dulin, Hugh M. Boyd was elected Tax Collector and Receiver. By February 15th, with all officials duly elected, Council proceeded to a consideration of the ebb and flow of small town business, some of which, briefly recorded, will indicate what was going on in the Atlanta of 1848.



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Atlanta's first municipal election, Jan. 1848. Moses Formwalt defeated Jonathan Norcross for mayor. Thomas Kile's store stood on the corner of Peachtree and Marietta Streets, present site of William-Oliver Building.

February 15. Council met in Masonic Hall. Thereafter the place of meeting, when designated, was recorded as "Council Chamber." Allen E. Johnson and Jonathan Norcross were charged with draying without a license. Stephen Terry was given a contract to survey the city in conformity to the one mile circle specified in the charter. A pine table, 3½′ x 8′ was ordered to be made—possibly the first piece of furniture bought by the city.[9]

February 19. William J. Mann was brought before Council for not moving his scales off the sidewalk.[10]

At this period Council met every two or three days, sometimes adjourning to meet on an appointed evening "at early candle light."[11]

April 15. Anderson Moody was fined $1.00 and costs for shooting within the city limits. Permission was granted to James and John Lynch to dig a well in the street at the crossing of Whitehall and Alabama; and U. L. Wright was authorized to buy a sixty pound bell for the use of the town.[12]

June 5. Regular meetings of Council were set for the first and third Mondays at 1:30 P. M. Antonio Maquino, brought before Council for keeping open doors on the Sabbath at Walton Spring, was fined $1.50 and costs.[13]

June 9. Council voted to have street hands erect a "stand" at Walton Spring, spending two days on it. Ed Elliott was fined $1.00 and costs for not removing a dead cow from the streets.[14]

July 3. A board of health, Atlanta's first, was elected as follows: Dr. N. L. Angier, James Boring, Solomon Goodall, John F. Mims, Robert Carr, William Herring, James Loyd, Dr. Joshua Gilbert, and Dr. G. G. Smith.[15]

July 28. Robert M. Clarke resigned and Joseph B. Clapp, elected City Clerk.[16]

Sept. 5. A. S. Rhodes was paid $5.00 for furnishing lumber and hanging bell over Council Chamber.[17]

October 11. Case of James and William Kile for selling liquor without license dismissed by their taking out a license for back time.[18]

October 23. John Collier and Julius A. Hayden petitioned for a street to be run from the bridge across the Macon & Western R. R. in a southwesterly direction to intersect with the Whitehall Road within the city limits.[19]

This street is now Walker Street, S.W. Whitehall Road, as distinguished from Whitehall Street, is the present Peters Street.

November 4. Called meeting to dismiss Mr. Clapp, the clerk, because he would not report his receipts to Council. John L. Harris was elected Clerk on November 6th, being the fourth incumbent in less than a year.[20]

November 6. Whitehall petitioned to be extended to intersect with a road cut by Mr. Humphries (probably the present Humphries Street), and the committee on public improvements instructed to put up a horse-rack at the post office.[21]

December 28. Eli T. Hunnicutt appointed Deputy Marshal.

The municipal authorities of Atlanta had no easy time. While the number of good moral citizens was increasing almost daily, the town was characterized as "tough." As it grew and became more distinctively a railroad center, the vices common to rough frontier settlements in all times held high carnival. Drinking resorts, gambling dives and brothels were run "wide open," and what is commonly known as the "sporting" element were insolent in their defiance of public order and decency.[22]

Headquarters of the rowdy element was the block of Decatur Street beginning back of Collier's grocery and Formwalt's tin shop and running east to Pryor Street. The locality was known as Murrel's Row, as a salute to the notorious Tennessee outlaw John A. Murrel, whose exploits were a favorite theme of conversation among the semi-outlaws of that quarter.[23]

Their chief amusement was cock-fighting. There were several cock-pits in the rear of the block, and some of the fights held therein attracted hundreds of spectators. The low wooden shanties of the quarter, many of them built of rough slabs, harbored all kinds of games of chance, and some of them were downright robbers' dens. Nearly every other building was a groggery, in which drunken rows were of almost hourly occurrence. On Saturday nights it was common to have free-for-all fights that assumed the proportions of riots.[24]

Meanwhile two other tenderloin districts had developed on the outskirts of town. One of these was the nondescript cluster of bark-covered cabins erected by the very poor to whom Jonathan Norcross had generously given slabs from his sawmill a few years before. The locality, around the present intersection of Decatur and Pratt streets, came to be known as Slabtown. It was noted more for poverty than lawlessness.[25]

The other was on a par with Murrel's Row and was, if anything, more degraded. Known as Snake Nation, it was a settlement devoted almost entirely to the criminal and immoral element, and was sprawled along the old Whitehall Road (later Peters Street) from the railroad crossing to about where Fair Street now crosses. Several murders occurred in the Snake Nation before the section was cleaned out by the law-abiding element in the early 1850's.[26]

The gambling situation in Atlanta was the subject of several special presentments by De Kalb County grand juries of the period. The jury for the March term, 1848, of which Charles Latimer was foreman, indicted William Chapman, Black Johnson, Washington Stegall, James Carlton, Rolly White and Irbin Powell for the offense of gambling, which offense occurred April 5, 1848, and involved "playing cards, the game of Bluff for money and other valuable things."[27]

The grand jury for the September term, in a special presentment, indicted Lud Edmonson and Hut Robinson for operating a Faro Table on August 28, 1848, for the purpose of playing and betting money, and permitting persons to assemble at said table, etc.[28]

With so much lawlessness abroad some restraints were necessary other than that afforded by the newly appointed marshal and his deputy. The county jail being in Decatur, six miles away, a local bastile seemed appropriate. Therefore Atlanta's first calaboose or city prison was erected in 1848 on the southwest corner of Pryor and Alabama streets, that corner then being somewhat remote and the inmates not likely to annoy any of the citizens during their confinement. The building was constructed of hewn timbers, three logs thick—the middle tier or course—set in the wall on the end. It was twelve feet square on the outside and about eight inside. The door was secured by a large wooden lock, opened by a brass key eight inches long and weighing a quarter of a pound.[29]

A primary purpose of this jail was the detention of runaway slaves until their owners could be notified.[30] In this connection the following resolution is quoted as recorded in the Council minutes for 1848:

> "Resolve that the Marshal buy a lock from Smith & Co. which has Two Keys and also to fix sum Rings & Staples on the Calaboose for the convenience of whipping negroes."[31]

This first Atlanta jail did not serve its purpose too well. Every day or two there was a delivery. Sometimes the prisoners would burrow out. Again, if enough were incarcerated at one time, they would simply turn the structure over by main strength and return to their haunts. Once, when a general row had packed the calaboose, the comrades of the prisoners visited the jail at night and lifted it off its foundation, holding it suspended while the inmates crawled from under.[32]

To uphold the dignity of the law, it therefore became necessary, about 1850, to build a more formidable prison. The new site was the southeastern angle of the railroad and Broad, then Bridge Street, at track level. This frame structure was approached from the Whitehall grade crossing by a well-worn path along the tracks. It remained in use until about 1865.[33]

On January 22, 1848, three new officers of De Kalb County were installed. John Jones succeeded Thomas J. Perkerson as Sheriff; Robert M.

Brown replaced Daniel Stone as Clerk of the Superior Court, and Alexander Johnson succeeded Henry B. Latimer as Clerk of the Inferior Court. Stephen Terry, Surveyor, and William Johnston, Coroner, continued in office for another two-year term.[34]

The citizens of De Kalb County in 1848 were not, like those of De Kalb and Fulton in 1950, overwhelmed with taxes. In fact, the total amount collected then would hardly suffice to cover the annual salary of one of our present minor officials. The report of the receiver of tax returns follows:

"I do certify that Three Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Six Dollars and Eighty Eight cents and Six Mills is the Fair Aggregate of the Tax of De Kalb County for the year 1848, this 27th Day June, 1848. Given under my Hand this Day.

JOHN HAWKINS, R.T.R."

The aggregate for 1849 was $3824.41 and 4 mills.[35]

Among the county roads opened in 1848 were two that now represent well-known thoroughfares — West Hunter Street and Mayson and Turner avenues, and Flat Shoals Avenue and road from the present East Atlanta to Panthersville.

The former is covered by the following Inferior Court order, dated July 3, 1848:

"John Collier and J. Norcross are hereby appointed commissioners for the purpose of examining the ground for a public road from the City of Atlanta to intersect the Nelson Ferry Road near Mr. Coursey's and running a westerly direction from the City of Atlanta by John Collier's, James A. Jett and Simeon Akridge and thence to said Coursey's.[36]

Judge Collier lived from 1847 until his death in 1892, at 47 Nelson Street, near the corner of Markham and facing east across the railroad tracks to what is now the Southern Railway Building. James A. Jett lived near the present intersection of West Hunter and Chestnut streets; Simeon Akridge, near what is now Simpson Street and Chapel Road. The Courseys, since the 1820's, have been extensive land owners in the present Simpson Road-West Lake Avenue section.

The Flat Shoals Road was initiated by the following order of the Inferior Court, dated October 21, 1848:

"We, the commissioners appointed to review the ground for a road from Panther Ville to Atlanta recommend the clearing and establishing a road recently cut and leaving the McDonough Road at Thos. M. Darnall's, from thence to William Morris' saw mill, thence to Atlanta."[37]

THOS. M. DARNALL }
ZACHARIAH R. JONES } Commrs.
WM. MORRIS }

While Atlanta, in 1848, had a new and unsatisfactory jail, De Kalb County had an old and unsatisfactory jail. It was taken cognizance of by the grand jury for the September term, together with the public roads and bridges.

". . . We find the jail altogether deficient. We therefore recommend to the Inferior Court to levy a tax sufficient to build a good and safe jail.

"The publick Roads & bridges are reported to be in good order except the bridge over Snapfinger Creek at Fowler's Mill. Also the bridge over Peach Tree Creek at Chandler's old place; also various bridges over the Rail Road. The Roads in Panthersville District are reported in bad order except the one leading from Decatur by Doc. T. M. Darnall's to the bridge on South River. Also the road running from Collier's Mill to Montgomery Ferry is reported to be in bad order to which the attention of the proper authorities is directed."

JONATHAN B. WILSON, Foreman.

Martin De Foor
Thomas Akin
Berry Ragsdale
Charles H. Wood
Peter Mitchell
Patterson M. Hodge
Thomas Barnes
Zachariah R. Jones
Robert Orr
Edwin G. Collier
Silas Poole
Samuel Potts
Tunstal B. George
John Reid
Thomas H. Griffis
William Beauchamp
James Kennedy
Cornelius M. Connally
James F. Stubbs
William H. Pyron
Robert Hollingsworth
William Terry[38]

That culture was not entirely lacking in early Atlanta is attested by the fact that Mrs. George G. Smith, wife of the doctor and mother of George Gilman Smith, the historian, opened "a select school for young ladies" in 1848. It was located in the storeroom of a combined store and home at the southwest corner of Marietta and Forsyth Streets.[39]

While education took no long strides in Atlanta during 1848, the year was significant in the religious life of the community. Members of three denominations, Methodist, Episcopal and Baptist, erected their respective houses of worship, and a fourth, the Presbyterians, formally organized.

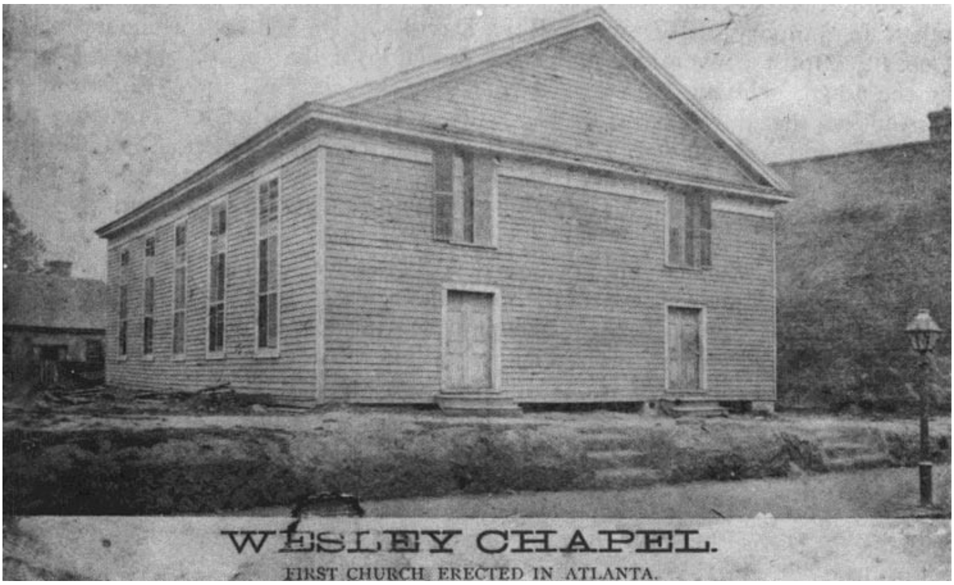
First to raise a building were the Methodists. During the summer of 1847 they had organized Wesley Chapel, which became a member of the Decatur circuit. Before the summer was ended, however, the congregation of some forty members determined to establish themselves more securely and erect a separate building. Through the efforts of a committee headed by Edwin Payne the sum of $700 was raised with which to buy a lot and build a church.[40]

With inspired foresight, Mr. Payne and his associates purchased a lot on Peachtree Street, including the present site of the Candler Building and running south to a point nearly opposite Luckie Street. For the modest sum of $150, Reuben Cone and Ammi Williams, the owners, executed a warranty deed to the following, as trustees of the church, under date of March 11, 1848: Thomas L. Thomas, Samuel Walker, Edwin Payne, David Thurman, James A. Collins and Stephen Terry. These gentlemen constituted the first board of trustees of Wesley Chapel.[41]

Thereupon a frame house of worship was erected, fronting upon Peachtree Street. It contained rough wooden seats, with a small table upon a platform serving as the pulpit. A homemade tin chandelier swung near the center of the house held candles that furnished light for the worshippers.[42]

Thus crudely equipped, Wesley Chapel was dedicated by Bishop James O. Andrew in March, 1848. During its first year Rev. Anderson Ray served as senior preacher, Rev. Eustace W. Speer as junior preacher, and Revs. J. W. Yarbrough and J. W. Hinton as assistants. Before the year was out Lewis

Lawshe moved to Atlanta from Macon and established, at Wesley Chapel, the first distinctly Methodist Sunday School in the community. He served as its first superintendent. In 1849 the church was furnished with comfortable pews, and there was a great revival, resulting in the accession of considerable numbers to the membership. The pioneer Methodist congregation of Atlanta was now definitely established and launched upon its useful career.[43]



(Courtesy Mrs. H. H. Trotti, Decatur, Ga.)

The second church building erected in Atlanta and the first by a single denomination, the Methodists. Used also for a short while by other denominations until erection of their separate buildings. Wesley Chapel was built in 1848 and stood on the east side of Peachtree Street just south of the present site of the Candler Building. It survived the war and was demolished in 1871 to make way for the First Methodist Church which, until 1904, stood on the Candler Building site, facing Houston Street.

While the Methodists in Atlanta were organizing, so also were some of the pioneer members of that denomination in what is now North Fulton County. The Sandy Springs Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized in 1848 on the old Lawrenceville Road, now Mount Vernon Highway. Its present brick building was erected in 1920, the late William H. Mitchell having been chairman of the building committee.[44]

Among the old citizens of the present Buckhead and Oak Grove Districts who rest from their labors in the cemetery adjoining the church are J. L. and S. D. Abernathy, David B. Anderson, John and W. C. Austin, H. M. Burdett, Ira W. Cates, Andrew J. Copeland, James Hooper, William McMurtrey, W. H. Mitchell, Samuel W. Power, Nathaniel Reed, Stephen Spruell, Sr. and Jr., Wilson E. Spruell, John Thomason, J. W. Waits and Lewis Wright.[45]

In the wake of the Atlanta Methodists came the Episcopalians. Indeed, had it not been for a piddling contractor the communicants of St. Philip's would have been the first in the local field with a building, for it was to have been completed by Christmas, 1847. At any rate, the big day came on May 28, 1848, when the completed church building was consecrated by Bishop Elliott.[46]

The modest edifice was erected on the northwest portion of the church property, on the Washington Street side and facing the Georgia Railroad, being that part held by the Bishop in trust for the Diocese. The building was of frame construction costing $700, and measured 28 by 42 feet. It had a vestry room and tower; was painted white inside and out, with grained pulpit, chancel rail and pews. A church bell, the gift of J. Edgar Thomson and one highly prized in those days, was installed in the tower.[47]

The earliest effort toward organizing a Baptist church in Atlanta was taken in January, 1847, when Rev. David G. Daniell, a missionary of the Georgia Baptist convention, under the direction of that body, began his labors in the town. Having procured $350 from the citizens, and $100 from the convention, he purchased for $130 the northwest corner of Forsyth (then Wadley) and Walton streets,[48] and began the erection of a house of worship. In January, 1848, a presbytery composed of Revs. B. M. Sanders, John L. Dagg and Parker M. Rice, constituted the First Baptist Church in Atlanta.[49]

By July 5, 1848, Dr. Daniell's building efforts were completed and the structure was dedicated and occupied for religious services that day.[50] The plain wooden church faced south on Walton Street, and consisted only of an auditorium, with none of the usual church equipment. The First Baptist followed the village custom of baptizing candidates in an open-air pool. In this instance it was probably a pool formed by the stream that flowed from Walton Spring not far away.[51]

The seventeen original members of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta were Rev. D. G. Daniell, Benjamin F. Bomar, John L. Jones, W. C. Hughes, John N. Jones, Mary J. Daniell, E. C. Daniel, Mary Bozeman, Mary S. Rhodes, Martha J. Davis, Malinda Rape, Elizabeth Moody, Martha Jones, Elizabeth Shurburne, Susanna White, Mary Hughes, and Lydia C. Clarke.[52]

In April, 1851, having completed payment for the church building, Dr. Daniell became agent for the Southern Baptist Publication Society, and removed to Penfield, Georgia. He was succeeded as pastor by Rev. A. M. Spalding, who had been his assistant during 1850.[53]

When Dr. William N. White, the schoolmaster, arrived in Atlanta in October, 1847, he, being a Presbyterian, was nonplussed as to his church membership. The following entry appears in his journal under date of November 8th:

> "I do not know what to do about my church membership. There are but two Presbyterians besides myself in the place and our denomination is not very numerous in Georgia. There is a church at Decatur, six miles below here, but as I do not keep a horse it is not very accessible. There will be fine churches for the Methodists, and Baptists and Episcopalians and I hope before the end of the year enough of our denomination may come to form a church."

On Sunday, November 14th, Dr. White recorded: "There was preaching in the city today, the first since I came to Atlanta. I heard Mr. Wilson, of Decatur, a Presbyterian minister. The discourse was very fine. I introduced myself to him and found him a very agreeable man."[54]

On January 8, 1848, as Dr. White was preparing to depart for Athens, nineteen Presbyterians banded themselves together and agreed to unite in the organization of a church, to be known as "The Presbyterian Church of Atlanta." The agreement was adopted and subscribed to on that date by Joel Kelsey, Minerva Kelsey, Keziah Boyd, Margaret Boyd, Annie L. Houston, Jane Gill, O. Houston, Mary A. Thompson, C. J. Caldwell, Mary J. Thompson, Joseph

Thompson, Henry Brockman, Ruth A. Brockman, James Davis, Jane Davis, H. A. Fraser, Julia M. L. Fraser, Lucinda Cone and Harriett Norcross.[55]

The first three Ruling Elders were Joel Kelsey, Oswald Houston and James Davis, to whom A. F. Luckie was shortly added. On January 28, 1850, the following trustees were appointed: John Glen, G. T. McGinley, O. Houston, J. A. Hayden, James Davis, Reuben Cone and Joseph Pitts.[56]

It was not until the early 1850's that the Presbyterians secured a building of their own. Meanwhile, they continued to hold services in the combination church and schoolhouse at Peachtree and Pryor streets, with Rev. John S. Wilson as Stated Supply and Pastor.[57]

The presidential campaign of 1848, in which General Zachary Taylor, candidate of the Whig party and hero of the recently concluded Mexican War, opposed Lewis Cass, of Michigan, the Democratic nominee, was full of local excitement.

Taylor and his running mate, Millard Fillmore, had many zealous partisans in Atlanta. Indeed, the zeal of some was so strong that, when fortified by white corn liquor, a fisticuff occurred nearly every day during the fall, between citizens of contrary political beliefs.[58]

A Taylor and Fillmore, or Whig, mass meeting was held at Walton Spring during the middle of September which drew a tremendous crowd for fifty miles around. There was a grand barbecue and one of the distinguished orators of the occasion was Alexander H. Stephens. So great was their enthusiasm that hundreds of Stephens' admirers rushed to the Atlanta Hotel, where he was stopping, and demanded a speech before he was driven to the spring. After he had appeared on the gallery and was about to step into a waiting carriage, hundreds of hands were stretched toward him to shake, and a score of others unhitched the horses from the vehicle, so as to draw the little statesman themselves. Thus drawn and escorted he reached the spring for the main event. The first American flag ever given to the breeze in Atlanta was unfurled over the *Miscellany* printing office by its editor, Colonel C. R. Hanleiter, on this occasion.[59]

While Taylor and Fillmore carried Georgia in 1848 because many Democrats feared that Cass was not sufficiently pro-slavery, they did not carry De Kalb County. In fact, 60 to 75 percent of the total vote in De Kalb went to the gentleman from Michigan.[60] The election was carried by Taylor and Fillmore, the latter succeeding to the presidency upon General Taylor's death in 1850.

Walton Spring was a noted resort in early Atlanta and was situated in low ground between the present Y.M.C.A. and the Bus Station upon the property of councilman Anderson W. Walton, being original city lot No. 120 in Land Lot 78. Walton's lot had a frontage of 135 feet on the northeast side of Walton Street at the northwest corner of Spring Street and ran back 459 feet in a northeasterly direction almost to Cain Street. Luckie Street, at that time and for some years later, stopped at the Walton property which comprised between two and three acres. As of March, 1847, the lot contained a 4-room frame dwelling, one kitchen, one smoke house, one negro house and one stable and carriage house. The spring itself was doubtless on the rear of the lot in low ground.[61] Spring Street takes its name from Walton Spring, while Walton Street bears the name of the owner of the spring.[61]

Anderson W. Walton, as previously noted in this chapter, was one of Atlanta's six original councilmen. He was born in Augusta, Georgia, in 1817;

married Elizabeth G. Holt in 1841, and came to Atlanta from Augusta between May, 1846, and March, 1847. He left Atlanta about 1849, possibly to return to Augusta, but later served as First Lieutenant of Company G, Fifth Georgia Reserves, C.S.A.[62]

It was more or less in connection with Walton Spring that Atlanta's first amusement park came into being. On the sloping ground between the spring and Peachtree Street, the Frenchman, Antonio Maquino, had a wagon yard, and under the shade of the trees by the spring there was a stand where he sold drinks and knick knacks. In order to boost trade he hit upon the plan of having some sort of amusement. There being nothing he could purchase that quite measured up to his idea of real sport, he decided to contrive something of his own, the result being a unique and original device. Patterned after the old mill wheels of that day, Maquino constructed a large wooden wheel forty feet in diameter. It revolved on an axle, two husky Negroes supplying the motive power. The little cars, suspended at intervals between the two sections of the wheel, were made of good strong dry goods boxes. Maquino's giant wheel preceded by some forty years the famed "Ferris Wheel" of Paris and of Chicago.

Two unfortunate events took place in Atlanta concurrently with the Taylor-Fillmore mass meeting in September, 1848. First was an altercation between Alexander H. Stephens and Judge Francis H. Cone, in which the former was seriously injured. The affair will be related in some detail in the following chapter in connection with the recollections of George G. Smith. The other was Atlanta's first recorded homicide.

James McWilliams and William Terrell were members of old De Kalb County families, both of whom, in 1848, resided in the Panthersville District near what is now East Atlanta. James was a son of John McWilliams. The grandfather of William Terrell, who bore the same name, was a Revolutionary veteran then nearly 90 years of age.[63] The two young men were about 21, and though not together, both attended the Taylor-Fillmore rally at Walton Spring, where they came in frequent contact with each other.

Bad blood had existed for sometime between Terrell and McWilliams, a quarrel having been handed down from their grandfathers, one of whom fought under Gates and the other under De Kalb at the battle of Camden during the Revolution.[64] To add fuel to the fire they had an immediate political difference, Terrell being a supporter of Cass and McWilliams of Taylor. As a result they had spoken hard words and threatened each other throughout the day.[65]

That night, September 14th, between 8 and 9 o'clock, Terrell, with a companion, William Henson, was walking down Decatur Street in the bright moonlight hallowing for Cass. Not far behind them McWilliams and his brother David, mounted on horseback, were doing the same for Taylor. They all came together in front of the house of John Kile, Jr.,[66] who was absent, but where Terrell hoped to buy some ginger cakes from John's wife Huldah.[67]

Upon the arrival of McWilliams several epithets were exchanged from opposite sides of the road, during which Terrell called McWilliams "a Tory and a coward." The two men finally met in the middle of the road and after a blow or two, clinched. McWilliams, being the heavier, fell on top of Terrell. The latter succeeded in drawing a six-inch, white-handled knife with which he inflicted a fatal stab wound in his antagonist's left side. McWilliams was carried into the Kile home where his wound was dressed by Dr. Land Gilbert, a younger brother of Dr. Joshua. Dr. Joshua Gilbert inspected the wound sometime later and pronounced it mortal. The patient died the next day about 2 P. M.[68]

Meanwhile, Terrell and his companion hastily left the scene and spent the night in an open field. Sometime later, in Randolph County, Alabama, Terrell was apprehended. He had been indicted by the De Kalb County grand jury during the interim.[69] Terrell was tried at the March term, 1850, of the De Kalb Superior Court and was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter by a jury of which Davidson G. Waldrup was foreman. He was sentenced by Judge E. Y. Hill to four years in the penitentiary at hard labor.[70]

The case went to the Supreme Court upon a technicality involving the spelling of a juror's name, but a new trial was denied.[71] It is supposed that Terrell served his time.

Heavy industry took a step forward in Atlanta during 1848 when Austin Leyden, a native Pennsylvanian, erected the first foundry and machine shop in town that took in regular custom work. Leyden's career began as a canal boatman in his native state, after which he came to Georgia and for three years was connected with the Cooper Iron Works on the Etowah River. It was thus that he gained the experience for his Atlanta venture. The Leyden foundry was erected in November at the intersection of the Georgia Railroad and King Street, presently the site of the City of Atlanta garage.[72]

Soon after getting his business established Mr. Leyden took a partner, Robert Finley of Macon, Georgia. In 1853 Leyden again became sole proprietor, but in 1856 Edmund W. Holland, James L. Dunning and John McDonough became partners and the firm operated as A. Leyden & Company. During the following year McDonough sold his interest to William Rushton and in 1858 Mr. Leyden himself sold out. The company continued operation as the Atlanta Machine Company with Mr. Dunning, a native of Litchfield, Connecticut, as superintendent. When the war came on the firm was asked to cast shells for the Confederacy, and refusing, was seized by the Confederate government and so used. When the city was captured by Federal forces in 1864, the works were destroyed.[73]

Two noted citizens departed the city in 1848, one by his own will and the other by the will of God.

Charles Fenton Mercer Garnett, Chief Engineer of the Western and Atlantic Railroad since February 7, 1842, resigned and was succeeded by William L. Mitchell on January 1, 1848.[74] In all probability Garnett returned to his home at Norfolk, Virginia. He had had much to do with the early development of Atlanta as a railroad center, but from all accounts had little faith in its future as a city.

James Bell was a noted merchant in Atlanta during the last couple of years of his life. His general merchandise store was located on the north side of Decatur Street below Murrel's Row next to the present site of the Ten Pryor Street Building. It was distinguished by a large wooden bell upon which was painted, "The Bell House." This unique sign attracted much trade.[75]

Mr. Bell died April 30, 1848, and his widow who subsequently returned to her girlhood home in Elberton, Georgia, had erected over his grave in Oakland Cemetery, after the cemetery was opened in 1850, a marble box tomb. The inscription is a genealogist's delight. It reads:

JAMES BELL, SEN.
WAS BORN IN ELBERT CO., GA.,
JUNE 10TH, 1789.
MARRIED SUSAN BELL KEY 24TH JAN. 1819.
HE LIVED A MORAL AND
USEFUL LIFE, AND WAS KNOWN AS
A PEACE MAKER.
DIED IN ATLANTA, 30TH APRIL, 1848,
LEAVING 10 CHILDREN:

EUGENE M.,
ADDISON A.,
JASPER M.,
MARCUS A.,
MARIAMNE E.,
JEDEDIAH F.,
LYCURGUS M.,
MARGENIUS A.,
JAS. EUGENE,
& HENRY B.

HOW SWEET, HOW FAIR THIS EARTH OF OURS,
THE PRELUDE OF A YET SUBLIMER BLISS.

Above the inscription is an expertly carved Masonic emblem.[76] That Mr. Bell and his wife were ardent students of Latin is exemplified in the names of their children.

Addison Atterbury Bell graduated from the Georgia Medical College in Augusta, and practiced in Oglethorpe, Jasper and Morgan counties for 60 years.

Jedediah Flavius Bell joined the gold rush to California in 1849 and was never heard from again by his Georgia relatives.

Lycurgus Mucklesworth Bell left Atlanta and operated a farm in Elbert County.

Margenius Assyrumus Bell practiced law both in Alabama and Atlanta.

Jasper Madison Bell was wounded at Shiloh fighting for the Confederacy and died in a Northern military prison.

James Eugene Bell was graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, but returned to serve as a surgeon for four years in the Confederate Army.

Henry Bibb Bell graduated from the Atlanta Medical College and enlisted in the Confederate Army as a surgeon. Later he took up a gun and died in battle at Dalton, Georgia.[77]

Marcus Aurelius Bell (1828-1885) practiced law in Atlanta from 1849 to 1854 and then became a real estate promotor. The "Atlanta Real Estate Agency," established by him in 1854 was, in all probability, the first such office to be opened in the city. Marcus A. Bell married Mary Jane Hulsey, a daughter of Eli J. Hulsey and granddaughter of the noted Merrell Collier, twin brother of Meredith. Their son, Piromis Hulsey Bell, after practicing law for many years in Atlanta, yet lives (1950), aged 92, upon part of the old Merrell Collier plantation in De Kalb County near South River.[78] The vicissitudes of a large family are many and interesting.

On May 7, 1848, Robert McCurdy, of Stone Mountain, progenitor of that well-known De Kalb County family, passed away. He had served as tax collector and justice of the peace. Among his descendants are the Messrs. Julius and Walter McCurdy, attorneys, of Decatur.[79]

NOTES—CHAPTER 26

[1] Recollections of David Mayer, *City Directory,* 1871, p. 28.

[2] Recollections of H. C. Holcombe, *ibid.,* 32.

[3] Reed, *Atlanta,* 61; "Garrett's Necrology".

[4] "Garrett's Necrology".

[5] U. S. Census, Atlanta, 1850; "Mrs. Mary A. E. Steed, [whose first husband was John E. Adams], Tells Something of Life of Moses Formwalt", *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 22, 1916; Piromis H. Bell to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Oct. 13, 1935.

[6] Meta Barker, "Some Proceedings of Atlanta City Council, 1848, Compiled from Original Records", *A.H.B.,* X (July, 1937), 27. Hereafter cited as Barker, "Council Minutes".

[7] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 26.

[8] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 27.

[9] *Ibid.,* 28.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 26.

[13] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 29.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 26.

[16] *Ibid.*

[17] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 29.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 27.

[21] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 27.

[22] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 46.

[23] *Ibid.,* 47.

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] Mitchell, "Queer Place Names in Old Atlanta", *loc. cit.,* 27-28.

[26] *Ibid,* 28.

[27] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1848, Book B.

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] Recollections of H. C. Holcombe, *City Directory,* 1871, p. 32. *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 180.

[30] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 180.

[31] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 28.

[32] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 46.

[33] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's First Jail Break", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 11, 1934.

[34] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[35] De Kalb County Tax Digests, 1848 and 1849, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[36] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 398.

[37] *Ibid.,* 399.

[38] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1848, Book B.

[39] Barker, "Schools and Teachers", *loc. cit.,* 30.

[40] Elliott, "Steady Growth Marks 82 Years of First Methodist Church", *loc. cit.*

[41] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 140-141.

[42] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 527.

[43] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 140-141; Elliott, "First Methodist Church", *loc. cit.;* Womble, "First Methodist Church", *loc. cit.,* 20.

[44] Information from cornerstone of present building.

[45] "Garrett's Necrology".

[46] Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip,* 12.

[47] *Ibid.,* 13.

[48] Present site of Old Post Office Building, Walton and Forsyth streets.

[49] Reed, *Atlanta,* 384.

[50] *Ibid.,* 385.

[51] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 151; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's Pioneer Churches and Who Built Them", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 2, 1936. Hereafter cited as Kurtz, "Pioneer Churches".

[52] Reed, *Atlanta,* 385.

[53] *History of the Baptist Denomination in Georgia,* 175.

[54] *A.H.B.,* X (July, 1937), 44-45.

[55] *Dedicatory Services, The First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, April 6, 1919* (Atlanta, 1919), 6.

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] *Ibid.*

[58] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 74.

[59] *Ibid.*

[60] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 150 and plate VIII.

[61] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Mar. term, 1847, pp. 194-195; De Kalb Deed Book L, 33; Vincent's Map of Atlanta, 1853, reprinted in *Hopkins' Atlas,* 1878.

[62] "Garrett's Necrology". The *Pioneer Citizens' History,* (on page 388) credits Le Walton with the ownership of Walton Spring. The present writer, after a search of contemporary records, including deeds, jury lists, and census reports, found only one other possible reference to Lee Walton. De Kalb Deed Book L, shows that L. W. Walton purchased a lot fronting 35 feet on the west side of Whitehall Street, running back 100 feet, situated between Alabama and Hunter streets. The lot was purchased from Rufus Leak, May 19, 1846, and, in Dec. 1847, L. W. Walton sold it to Fielding Hight.

[63] "Garrett's Necrology".

[64] LaFayette Jeffries, "Reminiscences of Thomas Moore", unpublished MS. Copy owned by Wilbur G. Kurtz, Atlanta.

[65] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, March term, 1850, Book B, 346-352, testimony of witnesses.

[66] Near the present intersection of Central Avenue.

[67] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, *loc. cit.*

[68] *Ibid.*

[69] *Ibid.*

[70] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, March term, 1850, Book B.

[71] 9 *Ga. Reports,* 58.

[72] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 390; "Garrett's Necrology".

[73] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 390.

[74] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 29.

[75] Piromis H. Bell to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Oct. 13, 1935; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 173.

[76] Tombstone, Oakland Cemetery, Atlanta.

[77] *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 6, 1950.

[78] "Garrett's Necrology"; Bell to Garrett, Oct. 13, 1935.

[79] "Garrett's Necrology".

CHAPTER 27

1849

MERE mention of the year 1849 calls to many minds a vista of clipper ships and covered wagons, all destined for the new El Dorado known as California, where gold had been discovered in Captain John A. Sutter's mill race the year before. It brings to mind also the theme song of the 49'ers, Stephen Collins Foster's, Oh, Susannah! or rather a modification of the words appropriate to the occasion:

"I'll scrape the mountains clean, old girl,
I'll drain the rivers dry
I'm off for California, Susannah, don't you cry.
Oh, Susannah, don't you cry for me.
I'm off to California with my wash bowl on my knee!
Oh, Susannah, don't you cry for me.
I'm off to Calfornia, the gold dust for to see!"

Not all who made the rugged trip saw much gold dust, much less acquired any. Possibly one of the disappointed souls, with a flair for versification and a grudge against the place was responsible for

"The miners came in '49,
The whores in '51,
And when they got together.
They produced the native son."

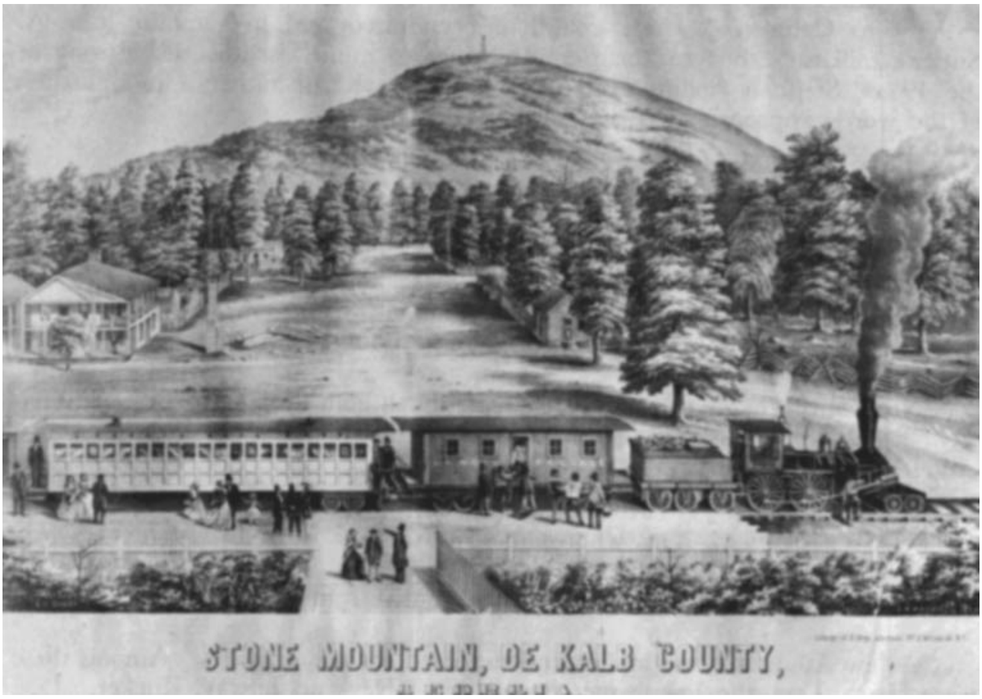
A few Atlantans caught fire and departed for the diggings. Among these were Henry Levi, the Jewish merchant, John Silvey and Jett W. Rucker. Levi remained, probably continuing in the mercantile business, but Silvey and Rucker returned in the early 50's. It was good for Atlanta that they did. Silvey was destined to make his mark as a wholesale dry goods merchant, and Rucker as a banker.[1]

It cannot be said that Atlanta acquired new citizens during 1849 with the rapidity of San Francisco, yet it did acquire some good ones, together with a telegraph office and a newspaper destined to live for more than two decades. Its fourth railroad, the Atlanta & LaGrange, was abuilding too, and its pioneer lodge of Odd Fellows, Central Lodge No. 28, organized October 7, 1848, began to make its influence felt.[2]

Probably the most outstanding citizen acquired by the city in '49 was Dr. James Franklin Alexander, then a 25-year-old graduate of the State Medical College at Augusta. An epidemic of smallpox inspired Dr. Alexander's coming to Atlanta, a situation he regarded as a challenge. It was his thought that it was no worse to run the risk of catching smallpox than to have no practice. Under the young doctor's care, the smallpox victims nearly all recovered, and this heroic and enterprising stroke served to lay well and deep the foundations for his future success in Atlanta.[3] We shall hear of him again.

The arrival of Samuel F. B. Morse's invention in Atlanta was heralded by the Macon *Journal and Messenger* of February 7, 1849:

"The Telegraph to Atlanta.—At a late meeting of the stockholders of the Macon & Western Branch Telegraph Company, held in the city of Griffin, Emmerson Foote, Esq., was chosen president; Reuben Cone, Richard Peters, Miles G. Dobbins and B. E. Berrien, directors. The work of erecting the posts has already been commenced, and it is supposed that the line will be in operation in two or three months."


STONE MOUNTAIN, DE KALB COUNTY,

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Stone Mountain in 1849, showing Cloud's Tower atop the mountain. Eastbound passenger train of the recently completed (1845) Georgia Railroad in foreground. Stone Mountain Hotel, Andrew Johnson, Proprietor, center left. Note old-time split or snake rail fence above locomotive.

This prediction was fairly accurate. The line was completed to Atlanta in May and an office established in the Macon and Western Depot in the State Square. Colonel C. R. Hanleiter, erstwhile publisher of the *Southern Miscellany,* was installed as operator, and presumably manager, while his young son William R., and Augustus Shaw acted in the capacity of first messengers. Atlanta's first telegram was addressed to U. L. Wright, Agent of the Macon & Western Railroad. Shortly thereafter Dr. Elisha Kent Kane, the celebrated arctic explorer, passed through Atlanta and sent a message to his father at Philadelphia, asking that certain articles necessary for a forthcoming voyage be gotten ready for him by the time he should arrive at home.[4]

The establishment of Atlanta's first telegraph office antedated the organization of the Western Union Telegraph Company by seven years. The city is now the third largest telegraph center in the entire country, not in messages originating or terminating locally, but as a relay point.[5]

The same smallpox epidemic that brought Dr. Alexander to Atlanta, caused the suspension of the *Southern Miscellany* in the spring of 1849.

Colonel Hanleiter, as previously noted, took over the local telegraph office, and sold his type and presses to Jonathan Norcross, Ira O. McDaniel, Benjamin F. Bomar and Zachariah A. Rice. These gentlemen changed the name of the *Miscellany* to the *Weekly Atlanta Intelligencer* and brought out the first issue about June 1, 1849. Rev. Joseph Baker, formerly of *The Luminary* was installed as first editor, but resigned a few months later to move to Jacksonville, Florida.[6]

By 1851 Johnson W. Bridwell had become proprietor of the *Weekly Intelligencer* and William B. Ruggles, editor. Zion Bridwell, brother of the proprietor, was also associated with the paper. Because of the non-existence of continuous early files of the paper prior to 1860 it is difficult to trace with accuracy successive proprietors and editors in their proper order. In September 1854 the *Intelligencer* became both a weekly and a daily.[7]

However it missed the distinction of becoming Atlanta's first daily. This honor goes to the *Daily Examiner,* founded in July, 1854 as a weekly, but which became a daily in August. The paper was published by William Kay, with Dr. J. A. Ramsey as editor. Its office was in the Holland House, northeast corner Whitehall and Alabama streets.[8]

As of February 1, 1856 *The Atlanta Daily Intelligencer* was being published by W. B. Ruggles and T. C. Howard, Editors. The latter was the father of our present esteemed citizen William Schley Howard, of Decatur.[9]

In September, 1857, the *Examiner,* then published by Lochrane, Dowsing & Company, with John H. Steele and J. W. Dowsing as editors, was combined with the *Intelligencer* and the paper continued for a time as the *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer and Examiner.* After March 9, 1858, the last half of the title was dropped.[10]

The *Atlanta City Directory* of 1859 takes care of the *Intelligencer* with the following entry:

"Gaulding, A. A. & Co.
A. A. G., Jared I. Whitaker & V. A. Gaskill, Editors and Proprietors
Atlanta *Intelligencer,* (daily and weekly) s w c Alabama and Whitehall.

Other names associated with the paper during the 1850's were James H. Logan, J. I. Miller and John W. Duncan. The *Intelligencer* was the only Atlanta newspaper to survive the War Between the States. Something of its subsequent history and demise will be related in a later chapter.

Between 1849 and the beginning of the war Atlantans were subjected to a barrage of reading matter, although several of the offerings lasted but a short while. Here is the list: *Atlanta Herald, Christian Telegraph, Atlanta Republican, The Olive Tree, Whig Reveille, Georgia Blister and Critic, The Discipline, Southern Blade, Knight of Jericho, Georgia Literary and Temperance Crusader, Atlanta Medical and Surgical Journal, Atlanta Weekly Republican and Discipline, The Educational Journal and Family Monthly, The Olive Branch, Literary and Temperance Crusader, Medical and Literary Weekly, Educational Repository and Family Monthly, Hygenic and Literary Magazine, Landmark Banner and Cherokee Baptist, Daily Commonwealth,* and the *National American.* The latter changed its name, at the outbreak of the war, to the *Gate City Guardian,* and subsequently to the *Southern Confederacy.*[11]

In 1849, long before newspapers began to disseminate advice to brides and to the lovelorn through syndicated columns, the task fell largely upon parents.

Some of them functioned most creditably in this department. Among them was James Clarke, jurist and planter, of Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia, whose daughter Mary Harvey Clarke was about to become the bride of Sidney Root, native of Montague, Massachusetts and rising young merchant of Lumpkin. Mr. Clarke took pen in hand on April 2, 1849 and addressed a multi-paged letter to Mary. His advice was, and is, sound:

> "When your will and that of your husband should happen to conflict, whether you approve or disapprove, it is, under your marriage vows and the Holy Scriptures, your duty to obey.
>
> "You must ever entertain for him affection and tenderness . . . but I would not have you make marked manifestations in the presence of third persons. . . .
>
> "All he will expect of you is that politeness and those attentions which affable, well-bred persons are wont to bestow. . . .
>
> "When he comes home from business you should ever meet him dressed in smiles. . . .
>
> "Under your marriage vow, you promised not only to LOVE, but to HONOR your husband. . . . Be ever ready to show him distinguished marks of preference and favor, and that he is the first object of your esteem. . . . And should you ever be enabled to detect faults in his manners, or infirmities in his character, never suffer yourself to treat them with irony or indifference, or the least semblance of bitterness. . . . If your views and opinions are permitted or suffered to thwart or counteract his, his character will lose much of its force and vigor; he will become feeble, vacillating and unsuccessful in all his endeavors, and losing all self reliance, he will become a weak and insignificant cipher in the world. . . .
>
> "Should poverty or pecuniary distress (Heaven grant that these trials may never visit you) be permitted to come upon your husband, it is then no time to upbraid him, or to visit him with railing and condemnation. It is then that he requires new signs of your confidence and attachment. With his spirit bruised and trodden down, forsaken by his friends and neglected by the world, his energies must sink, and he will be irretrievably lost unless, with angelic heroism you come forward to the rescue, and lay yourself out to cheer, comfort and console him. . . ."[12]

Nothing cynical or blasé about this advice. And the marriage was a very happy one. A few years later Mr. Clarke and his son-in-law Sidney Root, together with their respective families, became residents of Atlanta. It was James Clarke, who, in 1859, built the large brick house, still standing, at the northwest corner of Washington Street and Woodward Avenue, then called Jones Street. This old home, one of the few in Atlanta dating from the ante-bellum period, was long famous for the magnificent oaks that stood in its yard. After the war it was occupied by Edwin W. Marsh, and, for the past several years has housed the Immaculate Conception Convent. Its present designation is 325 Washington Street, S.W.[13]

Mr. Clarke died in Atlanta in December, 1878, leaving several children, among whom were Judge John T. Clarke, Judge Marshall J. Clarke, Mrs. Root, Mrs. Edward E. Rawson and Mrs. Moses Cole.[14] Among his great-grandchildren now residing in Atlanta are Mrs. Vaughn Nixon, Mrs. H. J. Hopkins, Mrs. Clarence Haverty, Henry S. Johnson and Charles Rawson. The late Mrs. Robert F. Shedden was also a great-granddaughter.[15]

During the latter part of 1848 and early 1849 fully as much excitement prevailed in Atlanta as in California, particularly among the owners of lots in Land Lot 77. Indeed they faced the very real possibility of having their holdings sold out from under them.

Instigator of all the excitement was Allen E. Johnson (1812-1854), who came to Atlanta from Henry County about 1846. Mr. Johnson took an unusually keen interest in Samuel Mitchell's title to Land Lot 77, which title appeared to Johnson something short of perfect.[16]

It all began when Benjamin Beckman, of Putnam County drew Land Lot 77 of the 14th District of then Henry, later De Kalb, now Fulton County, in a State Lottery authorized in 1821. The date of Beckman's drawing the lot is uncertain, but we do know that his title is dated May 15, 1827, and is signed by Governor George M. Troup.[17]

One evening, probably in 1822, Beckman had occasion to stop some four or five days at the house of Samuel Mitchell in Pike County. While there he took a fancy to a horse owned by his host and proposed a trade. Mitchell would not swap even because Beckman had an inferior horse. Whereupon Beckman countered with an offer, to throw in as boot, papers that would give Mitchell ownership of Land Lot 77 up in the 14th District of then Henry County. This offer was accepted. Just what these papers were is uncertain, for Beckman did not get a deed from the state until 1827. However he could have had a certificate that would entitle him to a State's grant, and this could have been made over to Mitchell. The Mitchell family always claimed that the deed to Samuel was dated May 6, 1822.[18]

After De Kalb County had been organized Mitchell is supposed to have sent his deed to Decatur for recording, he retaining a copy. Apparently the original deed was not returned and perished in the courthouse fire of 1842. Meanwhile, as we have seen, a railroad terminus and a town had taken root on Land Lot 77, and the land acquired substantial value.[19]

Allen Johnson noted this and had somehow found out that no original deed from Beckman to Mitchell existed. But Johnson was no fool. He waited until after Samuel Mitchell's death, which occurred May 29, 1847, before taking any action. Thirty-eight days later, on July 6, he applied for and was granted Letters of Administration upon the estate of Benjamin Beckman, deceased, by the Justices of the Inferior Court of Putnam County. He gave bond in the sum of one thousand dollars. Johnson's action seems to have been predicated on his belief or contention that Beckman was the rightful owner of the property (Land Lot 77), his number a winning one in the lottery, but that he had died before he could give a deed to Mitchell. This made Mitchell a usurper in Lot 77. If the Mitchell heirs could not show otherwise they were sunk, and so were the many purchasers of land from them. The burden of proof was placed squarely upon their shoulders.[20]

On January 10, 1848, Johnson got an order to sell the Beckman real estate, although nothing thus far produced in the matter identified the heirs of Beckman. Some weeks or months later—how long is not certain—Johnson threw his bombshell into Land Lot 77. It was highly explosive.[21]

The owners rallied to the defense of the Mitchell heirs, as well they might. Their own titles were at stake. A committee of two, consisting of Ira O. McDaniel and Alexander W. Mitchell was appointed to look into the facts concerning the lottery, and of Beckman's death. They journeyed to Putnam County and returned with the information that the shadowy Mr. Beckman was dead, but just when and where the event occurred was never definitely ascertained. No grave and no burial record was ever found.[22]

Finally on Tuesday, January 2, 1849, the real estate of Benjamin Beckman was put up for sale at the Court House door in Decatur, as advertised. The property holders in Land Lot 77 were there in full force and so was every other Atlanta citizen who could get away. Their belligerent mood was reinforced by knives and pistols ready to hand. The Johnson party, while in the minority, relied upon its legal status to carry the day.[23]

Sheriff Jones read the notice of the sale and called for bids. A Johnson man opened. Thomas G. W. Crusselle had been delegated by the property owners to raise without ceasing. He entered upon his commission with zeal and promptly raised the Johnson man. The bids mounted to astronomical figures. The farce persisted, but the law on the courthouse steps showed no sign of recognizing it as such. Finally as the closing time of the sale approached, the humor of the situation leaked away. The Mitchell party was losing patience and Johnson saw that he was getting nowhere. Thereupon he declared he would call off the sale if the Mitchell's would make a "small concession" to the Beckman claimants.[24]

The result was a compromise. The Mitchell heirs agreed to give Johnson a lot at the southeast corner of Pryor and Alabama streets and some ten acres near the present State Capitol. In return Allen E. Johnson, as administrator for the late Mr. Beckman, executed a deed dated January 2, 1849, to Mrs. Jane L. Mitchell, widow and administratrix of the estate of Samuel Mitchell, for the 202½ acres of Land Lot 77—consideration $500.[25]

Thus ended one of the most peculiar real estate situations in the history of Atlanta.

Allen Johnson utilized the southeast corner of Alabama and Pryor streets as a site for Atlanta's fourth hotel,[26] begun in 1852 and completed in 1853. Known as the Fulton House, it was owned and occupied by Mr. Johnson until his death in 1854.[27] The hostelry was subsequently called The Planters' Hotel and during the war was used as a hospital. After the war the property, still owned by Johnson's widow, was operated for some years as the American Hotel.[28]

About the time the Johnson-Mitchell affair was concluded a new mayor and council were sworn in on January 17, 1849. Dr. Benjamin F. Bomar succeeded Moses W. Formwalt as mayor. Jonas S. Smith was the only councilman who succeeded himself. His five new associates were Ambrose B. Forsyth, Julius A. Hayden, son-in-law of Judge Reuben Cone, Ira O. McDaniel, father of Henry D. McDaniel, a future governor of Georgia, Patterson M. Hodge and Henry C. Holcombe.[29]

Ministerial officers elected to serve for the year were: Hugh M. Boyd, tax receiver and collector; Oswald Houston, treasurer, German M. Lester, marshal, and John L. Harris, clerk. The position of deputy marshal was abolished January 18th. Salary of the marshal was fixed at $300 per annum and his bond set at $2,000; the treasurer was to receive two per cent of all moneys received, and the same for moneys paid out. Bond $4,000. The compensation of the tax collector and receiver was fixed at three per cent of all moneys received and disbursed. Bond $4,000. The clerk's fees were to be regulated by the ordinances of the city and his bond was fixed at $1,000. The tax for 1849 was decided on the 7th of February, and was fixed at thirty cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of real estate and merchandise on hand.[30]

The council minutes for 1849 indicate the type of business taken up by that body during the year. Some extracts follow:[31]

January 28.—G. G. Smith petitioned for straightening Whitehall Street and bridging the railroad.[32]

February 24.—Decisions in Mayor's Court could be appealed to a full meeting of Council.

February 27.—Unanimously resolved by Council that the use of the City Council Room be granted to the Justices of 1026th (Atlanta) Militia District for the purpose of holding their courts.

March 12.—Cases of disorderly conduct to be tried before three members of Council.

April 5.—Clerk to inform the directors of the M. & W. R. R., that time had arrived when the citizens of Atlanta need and must have a crossing for carriages and other vehicles on Forsyth Street where it intersects the railroad.[33]

April 14.—$500 in bonds were voted to meet expenses until taxes were paid.[34]

July 5.—D. Dougherty to pay $10 and costs for allowing Negroes to loiter about his property.

July 30.—Called meeting to consider best method of improving Whitehall Street. Determined by Council that a plank road be constructed from Lynch's corner (Alabama Street) to the Post Office, 20 feet wide.

November 1.—Mr. Baker was paid $20 for his attendance on smallpox patients.

November 4.—A man tried and fined for vulgar and obscene language.

Dr. Bomar, Atlanta's second mayor, was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina, August 9, 1816.[35] He was educated there and subsequently studied medicine at the Medical College of the State of South Carolina at Charleston. He was married at Cumming, Georgia, in 1840 to Sarah Elizabeth Lumpkin Haynes, and a few years later moved to Dahlonega, then a prosperous gold-mining town, where he practiced for several years.[36]

Having impaired his health making his rounds on horseback in the relatively severe winters of that mountainous region, he decided to give up the practice of medicine and try his fortune in Texas. Accordingly he left Dahlonega and on April 30, 1847, en route to Texas, reached Atlanta with his wife and two children, stopping at Dr. Thompson's Atlanta Hotel. He became so enamored of the new town with all its hustle and bustle, that he abandoned the Texas safari and settled here. His first enterprise in his new home, which he continued for several years, was a general merchandise business on the east side of Whitehall Street near Mitchell Street. He was to prove himself a valuable citizen of the community.[37]

On January 4, 1849, two new Justices of the Inferior Court for De Kalb County took office. They were: Julius A. Hayden and Peter F. Hoyle, succeeding William Hairston and Lochlin Johnson. The other three members of the court, John N. Bellinger, Lawrence S. Morgan and Ezekiel A. Davis held over for another four-year term.[38]

The grand jury for the March term, 1849 gave consideration to the jail and to the subject of education, the latter receiving a special plea:

". . . We find a new Jale (*sic*) in progress of erection in the hands of an efficient and energetic contractor, which we are happy to learn will be completed in the course of the present year, the plan of which we highly approved. . . .

". . . We strictly enjoin upon the justices of the peace of said County to be more particular in returning the children as entitled [to participate in the poor school fund] and that they be more vigilant in returning those who are entitled. Considering it the highest moral, political, social, as well as religious duty that we owe to ourselves, our county, society, and the rising generation to apted (*sic*) in the education of the poor and indigent of our County, we therefore ernestly recommend that the Inferior Court levy a tax of twelve and a half percent on the state to be applied to the poor scoul (*sic*) fund of said County.

"We recommend to the proper authority to have the public roads kept in good order, particularly the roads leading from Atlanta to the Chattahoochee River and towards the counties of Coweta, Fayette and Henry that are traveled so much. . . ."

Charles Latimer, Foreman

Henry Brockman
James Diamond
Thomas Kennedy
James L. Mayson
Joseph T. Bellinger
John F. Bellinger
Thomas W. Connally
Alexander F. Luckie
William Hazelet
A. W. Wheat

Ezekiel A. Davis
John Y. Flowers
Hiram Casey
James R. George
William New
William F. Connally
William M. Hulsey
William Avery
Robert F. Davis
James R. McAllister

John Holcomb[39]

De Kalb County's original log jail, having served for 25 years had indeed become inadequate. On January 2, 1849, the Inferior Court received a proposal from James R. Evins to build a new jail, according to draft and specifications for the sum of $5,500. Apparently Mr. Evins bogged down on the job, for on May 16, 1849, he and his associates, John L. Evins and Thomas Akin were released from their undertaking and their bond and the contract was assumed by John Bryce and Lemuel Dean.[40]

By August it had become necessary to farm out dangerous prisoners, as indicated by the following:

"Inferior Court in Chambers, Aug. 23, 1849. Whereas the jail in Decatur being insufficient for the safekeeping of persons charged with Capital Offences, It is therefore ordered by the Court that Robert Jones, jailer, convey to the jail in Marietta, Franklin Lee, who is now in jail charged with the crime of murder, and safely deliver him to the jailer of Cobb County for safe keeping.

L. S. Morgan
J. A. Hayden } J. I. C."
J. N. Bellinger[41]

Before the new two-story granite jail was completed in 1850 prisoners were also being sent to the jailer of Gwinnett County for safekeeping.[42]

The informality of road building and rerouting operations a century ago is epitomized in the following report to the Inferior Court:

"We the reviewers, after examining the Fayetteville Road near the residence of Dr. P. F. Hoyle,[43] recommend that said road be moved down on the

McDonough Road to the upper end of said Hoyle's turnip patch, and then running straight to the corner of Wm. Dearing's enclosed ground on the said Fayetteville Road . . . Aug. 8, 1849."

DANIEL MCNEILL
JOHN C. WHITE
GARDNER ADAMS[44]

Before closing its business for 1849, the Inferior Court of De Kalb created the present Stone Mountain or 1045th Militia District. The new District was comprised of parts of Diamond's, Evans and Browning's districts, and included the Stone Mountain Depot. Its original boundary lines were marked out as follows:

"Commencing at the line of the Decatur District where the Rock Bridge Road crosses said District line, and running on said road until it crosses the road leading from Lawrenceville to McDonough, thence up the said Lawrenceville Road until it reaches the old Hightower Trail; thence up said Trail to where an old road called the old Towers Road crosses said Trail, it being on fraction of Land [Lot] Number 219 on the Northwest corner of said fraction; thence along said Towers old road until it crosses Stone Mountain Creek; thence along a new road called the Parker Road, leading from his farm on said creek to his house, until it strikes the Geo. Rail Road; thence up said Rail Road, until it crosses said Decatur District line, thence along said District line to the beginning."
Stone Mountain, Ga.
Dec. 20, 1849.

A. JOHNSON
JAMES MILLICAN } Commissioners
B. F. VEAL[45]

George Washington Collier lost out as Postmaster of Atlanta on December 12, 1849, because his political leanings did not correspond with those of the Taylor administration, it being Whig and Wash a Democrat. He was succeeded by Councilman Jonas S. Smith who promptly moved the office to his own store at Whitehall and Alabama streets. Mr. Collier soon gave up merchandising and, renting his property at Peachtree and Decatur streets, retired to his forested acres north of the city. Here he devoted most of his time to farming in what is now Ansley Park and Sherwood Forest, remaining, until his death at 90 in 1903 a substantial citizen of this section.

De Kalb County acquired one new Post Office during the year. Known as "Ark", it opened on August 23rd with Levi H. Harwell as first and only postmaster. Unlike that of Noah, it sank, never to rise, on February 26, 1851. It was located in what later became Fulton County in the section just west of the present site of East Point.[46]

George White, in his *Statistics of Georgia,* published in 1849, gives us some interesting facts and figures relative to De Kalb County for that year.

"The Chattahoochee is the chief stream. One of the head branches of the Ocmulgee is in this county.[47] Nancy's Peach Tree, Utoy and Camp creeks empty into the Chattahoochee. Shoal, Snap Finger, and Pole Bridge, empty into South River.

"Decatur is the seat of justice. It is a pretty village situated on a ridge, dividing the waters of the Chattahoochee and South rivers. . . . The place is proverbially healthy. The court-house is a neat brick edifice, and cost $5100. A jail constructed of granite is under contract. There are two churches, Prebyterian and Methodist; the former is built of brick and is a handsome structure. It has two hotels, two flourishing schools, several stores, etc. Population 600. Amount of business done in Decatur is not so great as formerly.

"Atlanta is a new place, formerly called Marthasville. . . . The population may be put down at 2500, and this number is constantly augmenting. Atlanta is situated on a high ridge, . . . and is the point at which the Western and Atlantic, the Macon and Western, and the Georgia Railroads connect. This has made Atlanta a place of bustle and business. At this time there are four churches, and another will be erected in the course of the year; six schools, about twenty dry goods and grocery stores, etc. Immense quantities of produce pass through Atlanta. Amount of business done is over 200,000 dollars.

"Stone Mountain, formerly called New Gibraltar, is a very thriving place; has four hotels, eight stores and several mechanics. Population 300. A stage from Gainesville comes to this village three times a week.

"The face of the country is undulating. Much of the soil will hardly repay the labour of cultivation. The rich lands are on the Chattahoochee and South rivers, Peach Tree, Nancy's and Utoy creeks, and have been known to produce 1000 to 1500 pounds of cotton per acre, and from 8 to 12 barrels of corn per acre. Wheat is rather an uncertain crop. The gray lands will produce from 500 to 700 pounds of cotton per acre, from 5 to 8 barrels of corn, and from 15 to 25 bushels of wheat. Lands of the first quality are worth from 20 to 25 dollars per acre; the other lands from 3 to 10 dollars per acre.

"Some gold has been found in the vicinity of Rock bridge, near Yellow river, and on Nancy's creek; asbestos in large quantities at the plantation of John Evans, Esq.; granite in quantities sufficient to supply the State of Georgia for a century to come; tourmaline, quartz, iron, etc.

"Manufacturers, etc.—Two wool-carding mills, about 25 saw-mills, 35 grist-mills, 2 merchant-mills and 2 distilleries.

"The roads and bridges are not kept in the state which the comfort and convenience of the citizens require.

"Religion—Education. Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Catholics, Episcopalians and Christians. In Atlanta and Decatur are good schools. The subject of education begins to be more fully appreciated than formerly.

"We hazard nothing in saying that the citizens of this county are generally industrious and temperate. The farms are not kept with that neatness which could be wished. Some improvement in agricultural implements is much wanted."[48]

Probably the most lucid, accurate and interesting personal recollections of Atlanta during the late 1840's and early 1850's are those of George Gilman Smith, D.D. (1836-1913), Methodist minister and historian, who lived in the city from 1847 to 1855 with his parents, Dr. George G. and Susan Howard Smith. George Gilman Smith put his recollections in writing during 1909 and 1910 and they were published serially in the Atlanta *Journal* between October 2, 1909 and April 23, 1910. This excellent first-hand account of early Atlanta is hereby rescued from its frail abode of wood pulp newsprint and reproduced in more permanent form, with notes by the present writer.

No. 1. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy, 1847-1855.
Atlanta *Journal,* Sunday, October 2, 1909.

"The first night [in 1847] we spent in the little house near Whitehall which was to shelter us for awhile. I was alarmed by the yelling of the drunken wagoners, who, after selling their cotton and loading up the goods they were to carry to the west, proceeded to fill up themselves. There was no marshal nor policeman to say them nay, and they had a free and easy time. The next day I began my tour of exploration. Whitehall was then the chief street of the town. It was pretty well built up with wooden houses to what is now Mitchell. Many of these houses had rooms above the stores, in which the families made their homes.

"I have a pretty accurate recollection of the business houses. Going out to West End[49] from the railroad, the first house was the new grocery of John and James Lynch, two of as clever Irishmen as ever left the Green Isle. They did a large grocery trade and bought cotton. Across Alabama Street, Smith, Jones & Johnson had a general supply store. Jonas S. Smith was the manager. He was a warm hearted kindly man, who was postmaster after George Collier lost his place for being a Democrat. The *Enterprise* was published above the next store. Cooper Holliday had a barroom a little up the street. Clarke & Grubb[50] had a general supply store at or near that time, and they packed a very large amount of bacon. Dr. Bomar had a general grocery store. The dry goods store of Dr. Angier was on that side, and a large supply store of Davis & Lewis[51] was on the corner of Hunter and Whitehall. On the side beyond Hunter and on the right was an almost unbroken row of small store houses to Mitchell, where the store houses ended. On the other side [east] Scott, Carhart & Co. had a very large grocery on the [southeast] corner of Alabama. Their managing partner, U. L. Wright, was a great cotton buyer. The Sternberger Brothers, with Jett Rucker, afterward of Maddox, Rucker & Co., clerk, was next; then Thrasher & Scaife,[52] who had a large variety store; then old Billy Mann, the Irishman, for whom John H. James was clerk, and then Terrence Doonan,[53] an Irishman and a great cotton buyer, who had a large grocery store.

"On the [northeast] corner of Hunter and Whitehall was the only brick store in the town, occupied by McDaniel, Mitchell & Hulsey.[54] Before coming to them was the large dry goods and clothing store of Jacob Haas & Bro., for whom John Silvey and Calvin Hunnicutt were clerks. On the south side of Hunter on Whitehall was J. T. Doane & Co. Mr. Doane was a northern man,[55] as was his partner, Mr. Robinson.[56] They sold everything the country trade wanted, and next door to them in aftertime was the bookstore of James McPherson & Co., in which I was the boy clerk in 1848. I do not remember any other stores until the corner of Mitchell and Whitehall, where Mr. Davis had a grocery. I cannot be accurate in dates, but in a few years then a brick hotel, a range of brick buildings on Mitchell, a brick block near Hunter on the west side, but it required several fires to clear off the uncomely wooden buildings from the lower street.[57]

"From our little home towards the railroad there were no houses, and in front of us only one cabin in a scrubby wood. This was occupied by old Mr. Durham, who made ginger cakes for Bill, his son, to peddle. They were good cakes too, as I can testify, for I have eaten none for these fifty years with such relish. There were no streets as such, but a few. There was the Newnan Road, the Sandtown Road, the Green's Ferry Road, the McDonough Road on the south side; and the Forsyth Road, the Marietta Road and the Decatur Road on the north side.

"The heavy timber had been cut off, as had been all the saplings large enough for wood and the roots and little stumps gave fine gleaning for we little trash gatherers to get wood for the kitchen fires. Beyond Mitchell Street all along the Newnan Road, was now and then a building. Mr. [Richard] Peters had already bought the lot on which for so many years, was his home.[58] It was a commodious and highly improved plat, covering several acres in after time, while his large barn and stables were about where the Terminal Hotel is now.[59]

"Along the Whitehall or Sandtown Road were a few straggling houses and Mr. [Jesse] Clark's cabinet shop. On Pryor Street, south, there were sundry buildings. Eli Hulsey, I. R. Black, Ira O. McDaniel, Dr. Cheek and some others had houses and large lots, but nearly all of that part of the now thickly settled city was an unbroken forest. There was at that time a large spring on the west side, and a little school house near it. All along what is now Peters Street were small log and frame houses, with now and then one of greater pretensions. This was 'Snake Nation', and was the tenderloin district of the young town for many years. I was taught to give it a wide berth when I went out to my grandmother's who lived beyond Whitehall. The little house back of Whitehall [Street] was only a temporary camping place, and in a few weeks we moved across the town to the corner of Forsyth and Marietta. Our removal was almost contemporary with the incorporation of the City of Atlanta and the exit of the ungoverned town."

No. 2. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy, 1847-1855.
Atlanta *Journal,* Saturday, October 9, 1909.

"We moved to the corner of Forsyth and Marietta streets late in 1847. The home had been built for a store, with living rooms cut off in the rear, and the storeroom was well suited to a schoolroom for my mother's girls. At that day the east side was distinctly separate from the west. Taking the Norcross corner[60] for a starting point, going down Decatur Street on the right side was Dr. Thompson's garden. Then the railway buildings and yards. On the left was Murrel's Row, where every house was a groggery and gambling house, except a few small stores, until Ivy Street was reached. On the corner of Ivy and Decatur was a large boarding house of a Mrs. Wells. In this house, a few years afterward Elijah Bird cut to death Dr. Hilburn, who was one of the first dentists in Atlanta.[61] Then came Slabtown, a long row of small houses built of slabs and logs, with now and then one more pretentious. Dr. S. T. Biggers, the botanic physician, lived in a two-story building and had an office on a commodious lot in the midst of Slabtown. There were scattering homes over the hills looking toward Decatur, but the lots were mostly unimproved.

"The business men were Jonathan Norcross, who had a large department store and a large country trade; George Collier had a post office on the corner of Decatur and Peachtree, and the Kile's a drinking shop on Peachtree, while just off from that street Moses Formwalt had his tin shop. Addison Dulin had a general supply store where the Empire Building is now,[62] and on the corner where the new skyscraper of John Grant is to be,[63] was a warehouse occupied in the front by L. W. Walton, and in the rear by my father and Dr. [F. Jeter] Martin, who had moved their doctor's office from the corner of Alabama and Pryor.

"There were but a few buildings of any pretensions along Marietta Street or Peachtree at that time. Going out Marietta Street there were a number of small uncomely houses, and near Squire [Edwin] Payne's, a little hamlet with a few small houses and then came his home. He lived at that time in a double log house, and was just building his imposing 8-room house, in which he died.[64] Beyond him was the handsome home, for those days, of Neil [Cornelius M.] Connally.[65] All these places have long been absorbed by the city.

"There had been built a handsome residence, at that time the handsomest in the city, of Judge Reuben Cone, who had removed from Decatur. He owned much property in Atlanta in unimproved lots, which I remember were divided into a quarter of an acre each and sold for $150. Judge Julius A. Hayden, who had come originally from Connecticut, was his son-in-law. I remember Judge Cone had the first door bell in Atlanta, and the first I ever saw. Dr. [Joshua] Gilbert had a home opposite ours, and Dr. [Nathaniel] Austin was building a handsome brick just opposite us on the north side of the street.[66]

"During the year there was a Negro hanged for murder in Lawrenceville, and Dr. Austin fell heir to the dead man's body. It was brought to Atlanta to be dissected by the few doctors, and as my father was one, he took his two sons to the dissecting room to show them how fearfully and wonderfully we were made. I remember the ghastly vision to this day.

"Along the railroad going east on the north side were quite a number of four and five room cottages, in one of which lived William Rushton, the English machinist; boys of the Georgia shops, and James A. Collins, who had married the widow Bolton, and was step-father of the beautiful Julia. There was a famous blacksmith shop further down—the first in town—owned by a Mr. Martin. Rev. [David] Thurman, another blacksmith and a Methodist preacher, had a somewhat pretentious 2-story house, next to him on the hill. There were scattered cabins and cottages all through the section between Wheat and Decatur, and along Pryor and Ivy.

"Much the larger part of the infant city, or rather the city in prospect, was a forest. The young timber had been cut out for wood and the pines for lumber, and the beautiful oaks formed a great park. The limits of the city were defined as one mile in every direction from the Union Station, or as it was then called, the car shed.[67] Along the outskirts and jutting into the town were sundry farms, long since brought in, which have made many a man rich by 'unearned increment'.

"On the west side, out of the limits, was Charner Humphries, who owned White Hall, and whose straggling house was a stage stand and a tavern before the railroads were built. He was a man of large wealth for those times. A Mr. [Wiley G] Marchman had a farm adjoining, out of which West View Cemetery was formed. A Mr. [Henry T.] McDaniel was his neighbor. A. Mr. [James A.] Jett had a large farm on the same side, and others whose names I have forgotten.

"On the north side Samuel Walker owned all the land in the Piedmont Park tract, and much beside. A Mrs. [Sarah] Ivy,[68] a staunch old lady with a fine family of boys came up to the city's edge on the east side. These places and sundry others have long been absorbed by the city. In opening the city by laying out these farms many a man has dug his financial grave, who at one time thought himself independent, and many a poor man has made his family rich."

No. 3. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy, 1848.
Atlanta *Journal*, Saturday October 16, 1909.

"The City of Atlanta, early in 1848, was in prospect. The legislature had granted the charter, but for the early months of the year all things continued as they were.

"My mother opened the first female school in the town in January, 1848. She had limited her number to 25, charged $25 per year, and took only girls, not even her own sons being admitted. I remember some of her pupils. Dr. Thompson sent his two daughters, Julia, afterward Mrs. [Wm. P.] Orme, and Joan, later Mrs. [Thos. M.] Clarke. Captain Loyd sent his two daughters. James A. Collins sent Julia Bolton, his step-daughter and Sallie Collins his own child. Squire Payne sent his daughter Letitia, afterward Mrs. Calvin Hunnicutt. A. B. Forsyth, his daughter Fannie, afterward Mrs. [Wm. J.] McDaniel. There were several Haynes girls, daughters of Reuben Haynes, and doubtless a few others whose names I cannot now recall. At the same time Dr. Fonerdon and his wife[69] had a mixed school at the academy. There was also a mixed school on the west side, but I do not remember the teacher.

"My father's office had been moved to the back room of a building on Marietta Street, as I said before, and L. W. Walton[70] had a large grocery store in the main part of the building. Jonathan Norcross was on the corner of Peachtree, immediately adjoining Walton. My mother, having exclusively girls, my older brother was sent to Mr. Wingfield, and as I was out of school, allowed the freedom of the city.

"Mr. Walton and I were great friends and I had the position of a general office boy, and was used to measure grain, and I am sorry to say to measure liquids made from grain. My only connection with the liquor trade was that year. I never drank, but I drew the liquor for the up country folks who did. When a man came with a load of corn, the first thing to do was to load him up with corn. Sometimes his wife was with him, and she was always invited to take a little something, which she generally did, and I noticed it was always rum.

"The Irish famine was on and much corn was being shipped from Atlanta to Charleston, and thence to Ireland. The corn was generally on the cob when it was sold. The first corn shellers I ever saw were used by Jonathan Norcross to shell the grain and a dozen boys were employed to sew up the sacks. I remember their wage was 20¢ a day and they boarded themselves. These two stores and Addison Dulin's were the only stores of any size on Marietta above Pryor. I do not remember one below Pryor but that of James Bell. All the rest were drinking shops and gambling rooms.

"The Methodist church[71] was covered and floored, and I think the windows were in. My father got some loads of puncheons from the mill, and with the aid of hands sent by Edwin Payne and Samuel Walker, some backless benches were made, and regular services were held. Every two weeks the circuit preachers came and in the intervals the local preachers filled the pulpit. On the sides of the house were wooden candle holders, and in the center was a frame to hold a half dozen. My brother and I were the unpaid sextons. The Rev. John W. Yarbrough was our preacher and Dr. John W. Hinton was the junior preacher. My father and James A. Collins were the only two Methodists in the town who could house the preacher. The other brethren were in the country. The puncheon benches did not continue very long, for my father raised $60 by public subscription of one dollar each, and put in better seats. In all the accounts of this church published, these homely details are quietly ignored, but such was the beginning of Methodism in Atlanta.

"The Baptists were not so hasty. They finished the church before they went into it, and had a regular pastor, Rev. D. G. Daniel, before their church was finished. They were much stronger financially than the Methodists. The services of all denominations were held in the schoolhouse before the two churches were habitable. The Presbyterians made no attempt to build for two or three years after the other churches were occupied. I think it was very shortly after the two Protestant churches were built, that the Catholics built their first church on Loyd Street.[72] They had regular visitations from the priests from the first settlement of Marthasville.

"As I said, the city was in prospect but there had been no election, and save as state laws controlled, there was no control, and constables and sheriffs were very quiet. Old Painter Smith came from his cabin on McDonough Street,[73] neatly dressed by his good old wife, and proceeded at once to tank up and make things lively. 'Smell of my neck', he used to shout out defiantly. 'I hain't afraid of nobody sens I killed them two men.' 'You are a fool and I am a fool; I am a fool to do as I do; you are a fool for want of sense.' One day I saw John White, who was being 'cussed out' by Cole Brown, leap off Claiborn Powell's porch on his vituperator and hurl him to the earth, and heard Brown say just as he fell, 'Nuff, nuff, take him off.' Just below this groggery I saw the only chicken fight with gaffs I ever saw, and a disgusting sight it was.

"I never saw more beauty than there was in the springtime in the groves all over Atlanta. All the undergrowth except the azalias and dogwoods had been cut out. The sward was covered with the fairest woodland flowers, floxes, lilies, trilliums, violets, pink roots, primroses—a fairer vision than any garden of exotics show now. Honeysuckles of every beautiful hue, deep red, pink, golden, white, were in lavish luxuriance. The white dogwood was everywhere; the red woodbine and now and then a yellow jessamine climbed on the trees. When a stream was found it was clear as crystal. I have seen few things so fair in this world of beauty, as were the Atlanta woods in 1848.

"When the first election took place I cannot exactly say,[74] but sometime during that year Jonathan Norcross and Moses Formwalt were candidates. Jonathan was known to be uncompromising in his hatred to liquor and disorder, and Formwalt was one of the boys. He was elected. It was said that day there were 60 fights. I remember when Stephen Terry, who was also a candidate, standing by me, was being soundly berated by old Painter. His patience ceased to be a virtue, and good Methodist as he was, he seized old Painter by the collar and wore the stick to a frazzle on his back.

"That year was a year of conventions. The Temperance people, the old Washingtonians had one. Joseph Henry Lumpkin was president and Judge Robert M. Charlton was the orator. My father, fonder than wise, had decided to put me forward to deliver a speech he had written for me and trained me to deliver. So I made my debut as a temperance orator. I suppose no man living remembers that fact but myself. Oh! I was scared till the first burst of applause came, then my stage fright left me and I won my spurs. The arbor was at Walton Spring.

"This was the year of the great Taylor and Fillmore campaign and there was great excitement, and a mass meeting and barbecue was held at Walton Spring. I recall little save about the great barbecue, where whole hogs and oxen were roasted, and the viands spread on long tables, and the wild rush of the hungry crowd to snatch the smoking food. I remember the torchlight procession and the transparencies and the great crowds of strangers. I am a little mixed about my dates, but I am sure it was this year that the regrettable uncontrol of Judge [Francis H.] Cone and Mr. [Alexander H.] Stephens took place.[75] Judge Cone, a northern man[76] and a Democrat had said that if Mr. Stephens favored the Clayton Compromise, he was a traitor to the South.

"The fiery little commonor said that if Judge Cone said that to him he would strike him in the mouth. As bad fortune would have it, as Judge Cone stood paring his nails on the steps of Dr. Thompson's hotel, Mr. Stephens walked briskly up from the car shed. He saw Judge Cone, and at once asked him if he said 'he was a traitor.' Judge Cone said he did and Little Aleck struck him. The infuriated Judge stuck the knife in hand and knocked Mr. Stephens to the floor and stabbed him repeatedly. He escaped the fury of the mob by a quick flight. Then gave himself up and stood his trial in Decatur and was fined.[77]

"As soon as he was able to be moved, Mr. John F. Mims, the first agent of the Georgia Railroad & Banking Company, had him taken to his house where the Constitution Building is now.[78] When the convention came the horses were taken from the carriage and men drew it by long ropes to the scene of the speaking. I remember the pale face of the little man as he sat in the carriage.[79]

"That fall I had a long weary attack of typhoid fever, which was almost an epidemic in the young city, and I remember little more of the occurrences of that year. I know the street gang was put to work to dig up the stumps in the main streets, and that we had a marshal, German Lester, and a deputy, Ben Williford, and that eggs sold at 8¢ a dozen, and butter at 10¢ per pound, and corn at 40¢ a bushel, and sweet potatoes at 15¢ a bushel, and wood at 50¢ a load. I have seen venison sold at 25¢ a ham and fine apples at 40¢ a bushel. Coffee was 10 to 12½¢ a pound, and sugar, always brown, at from 6 to 10¢ a pound.

"The next year, 1849, we moved to the west side, just below Forsyth Street."

No. 4. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy, 1847-1855.
Atlanta *Journal,* Saturday, October 23, 1909.

"In glancing back over my first days in Atlanta, I recall the first lawsuit I ever attended. It was evidently a distress warrant case, and was tried before Justice [Willis] Buell. He was a New Englander[80] and the very impersonation of dignity. He sat in his judicial seat with his law books and a ginger cake before him. The lawyers were Christopher Simpson on one side and Squire [John N.] Bellinger on the other. I remember nothing of the case except that before it was finished I was on both sides. Old Squire Buell, was, I think, the first judicial officer in the town.[81] He was an old bachelor of somewhat bibulous habits, but of very dignified ways, drunk or sober.

"The next case I remember was a somewhat more serious one. A man named Crawford, who lived in Snake Nation, in connection with another, had driven a wagon to the back of a store on Whitehall Street and looted the store. He was arrested and committed to jail, and I was at the committment trial, which was held in the basement room of an old tavern on the corner of Decatur and Loyd streets.

"In 1849 I was in Sandersville for the first six months and while I was there the smallpox came to Atlanta. A merchant from Florida had gone to New York, and when on his return he found himself quite sick and in Atlanta, he sent for Dr. Gilbert. The doctor could not exactly decide what was the matter with him, and called in my father. As soon as my father saw him he told him that it was a violent case of confluent smallpox. To this verdict the doctors assented, and then came the panic. He offered to pay any price to stay at the hotel, but that could not be thought of. The city authorities hastily had a shanty knocked up, and he, with Pat Hodge, as nurse, was housed into it. Such a panic Atlanta has never had since, not even during the war, as that one case of smallpox produced. Business was almost at an end; schools were closed and churches not opened. The poor fellow died and poor Pat had an attack, and after weeks of excitement the panic was over, and there were no more cases.

"When I returned from Sandersville, Mr. McPherson employed me as a clerk. My salary was my board and clothes. My clothes did not cost much and my father took out of my board of $5 a month in books, so I was not an expensive employee.

"The old swimming pool of Whitcomb Riley may have been more picturesque, but it certainly was not more popular than a great rain water pond, like the tanks in Texas, which was made by the Georgia R. R. embankment below Oakland Cemetery. There I learned to swim, and to get to that pond I did what I did not often do—I disobeyed my father. That murder did not out, for I think he was ever in blissful ignorance that I had gone against his orders. I have always been an advocate of a public pool for bathing boys ever since those days. We had no bathing suits in those times and were 'in puris naturalibus' when the cars swept by.

"The city grew very steadily and rapidly—the one brick block of McDaniel, Mitchell and Hulsey[82] was followed by a brick block north of Hunter, on the west side of the street, and a brick hotel was built on Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell, which I think was called the Mitchell House, and I think was owned by A. W. Mitchell.[83] There was, at or near that time, a brick block on the corner of Mitchell and Whitehall with a store on the first floor and a hall on the second.

"The most popular place on the street was a little house next door to the store in which I clerked, the drinking house of Dock Hightower.[84] Dock was a very popular man, especially with the country folk. He generally managed to have a country fiddler on hand, and 'Billy In the Low Grounds' and the 'Arkansas Traveler', and such like melodies, with now and then a country jig thrown in, made our neighborhood lively enough. Immediately opposite our store was the store of a mysterious shopkeeper named Beecham. If he ever had a customer I never saw him, except when I went in to buy a thri' pence worth of raisins. He had a little Negro and a little pony. He fed the pony somewhat economically. As the wagons came in the cows raided them for fodder, and snatched a bundle and ran; then Beecham's nigger ran after the cow and captured the fodder and fed it to the pony.

"The trade of the city was still from the west, but was being threatened by the building of the Atlanta & West Point Railroad and the Rome branch.[85] One would cut off all the cotton trade; the other the Alabama mountain trade. Atlanta was apprehensive from these roads.[86]

"The young city was a center for shows. The legerdemain men reaped quite a harvest with their tricks. The magic lantern men with their dissolving views, and the mesmerists with their wonderful exhibitions. I remember one who said he could mesmerize anybody, but especially Ike Pilgrim.[87] Ike did just as the lecturer wished him to do. He slept and woke and danced and fished; but one time I think Ike a little overdid his part. He had a pole in his hand, and a line and hook, and was very solemnly fishing in an imaginary pond 'Now', said the lecturer, 'you have got a bite; ah, you have caught him; jerk him out'. 'Yes', said Ike, 'I've got a cat'. Then Ike overdid it.

"Once we had a scientific lecture and were told all about electricity and galvanism, and laughing gas. I stepped forward at the invitation of the lecturer and inhaled to intoxication, and spouted out loudly:

'Goliath was a man of might
And challenged Israel all to fight;
Now David was not great or high,
But thought the giant he would try,
He took his little stone and . . .'

Here I awoke to find the audience in a roar, and to find I had been speaking a little speech my father had taught me years ago.

"The newspapers in the town were the *Enterprise* and the *Luminary*. Then came the *Miscellany*, Colonel Hanleiter's paper. My father wrote the carrier's address for my venerable old friend, W. R. Hanleiter,[88] of Griffin, to carry around and sell. He sent me a copy years ago, which I am sorry I lost. I remember one part of it. It said:

'Atlanta, the greatest spot in all the nation,
The greatest place for legislation
Or any other occupation—
The very center of creation.'

"The Masonic Lodge was in Atlanta when we came in 1847. The Odd Fellows came soon after, and then the Sons of Temperance. The Shenandoah division No. 24, was the name; my father was the worthy patriarch Then came the cold water army. Dr. Fonerdon drilled us. We wore a uniform with red striped white duck trousers.

"This year of 1849 was the year of the first great religious revival in the city. The junior preacher on the circuit was Rev. Alexander M. Wynn, father of Mr. J. O. Wynn, so long with the Prudential. He was a young graduate of Emory, and had been brought up by his uncle, Bishop Andrew. He was only a youth and was in his first year on a very large, hard circuit. He naturally found his way to our home, for my mother had known him all his life. One day after he had been on the circuit some months, he saddened my mother by telling her that he was going to leave his circuit. He had mistaken his call. He was never intended for a preacher. He could not preach and never would be able. The boy had lost all heart. She tried to encourage and comfort him. At last she told him, 'Will Aleck try one more round? I will pray for you every day, and when you come back, if you feel that you must go, I will say yes.'

"So he went the weary round. He came back in no better heart. He got up to preach, but words failed him. At last he burst into tears and told his brethren and sisters the story of his trial. They flocked to the alter to pray for him. Sinners came to pray for themselves and his clouds fled. His senior, John Yarbrough, came to his rescue, and soon the little town was in a flame of revival."

No. 5 Recollections of An Atlanta Boy—1850
Atlanta Journal, Saturday, November 27, 1909

"Despite the building of the new [rail] roads which cut off the wagon trade, Atlanta continued to grow. . . . The board walks were removed and brick pavements were laid on Whitehall, and new streets were laid out. . . .

"Near this time a lot on the west side was laid off into streets and lots and they were sold in Decatur. Up to this time all was forest in that direction, except that John Collier had a considerable holding just beyond the railroad.[89] Among the stirring promotors of those days was Allen E. Johnson, the Sheriff.[90] He had much real estate and many enterprises. Near this time, 1850, there was the first considerable fire in the young city. The Wheat Brothers had a large wooden building where Mr. [Frank E.] Block's candy factory is now,[91] and one night about midnight it was found on fire. It was the first large fire I had ever seen. It burned the block but did no other damage. On this lot Allen Johnson built the Johnson House.[92] There were a few unsightly buildings on Alabama Street, on the south side, but all the business houses were on Whitehall.

"There were some improvements in the architecture of the private homes, but what was a palace then, would be a mere cottage now. Near this time Aaron Alexander[93] moved from Charleston, and opened a drug store in which he installed a soda fountain, the first soft drink place in the city. He was the first man to bring a carload of ice to the city. His brother-in-law, A. J. Brady, was the first exclusively hardware man on Whitehall Street. . . .

"The Methodists went into the occupancy of their church in 1848, before it was finished. Atlanta was in the Decatur Circuit. In 1849 was the great revival, and in 1850 the church had a stationed preacher. His name was Cooper.[94] He was, to say, the least, not a success and was removed from the station and his place taken by Dr. James Pierce.[95] After him came Rev. Charles W. Thomas.[96] He was a full blooded young Englishman, who had run away from a naval school in England. His mother was a Wesleyan, his father a churchman. He fell among the Methodists in Georgia and joined the church and finally the conference. He married into an excellent family in Pike County and was sent the next year to Atlanta. After his pastorate here he got a chaplaincy in the navy. After his return he joined the Episcopalians and was afterwards rector of St. Philip's.

"The Rev. William H. Evans[97] came after him, and finding no parsonage, he built one on the church lot. He had a very successful pastorate, and a number of well-to-do Methodists moving in, the church became pretty well established. While he was pastor, Mr. Willis Peck[98] moved to the city, and Mrs. Peck organized the first Woman's Aid Society, and it had the church plastered and painted. He [Mr. Evans] had a chapel built on the west side which was called Evans' Chapel. This is now Walker Street Church.[99]

"The Rev. John P. Duncan,[100] the famous singer and pathetic preacher came after brother Evans. The brethren had become so much strengthened they bought a bell. It was a ponderous one and could be heard miles away. Across the [Peachtree] street was a poor invalid to whom its loud clang was no music. Her thoughtful husband employed some mischievous boys to steal the clapper. The Baptist preacher was a famous South Carolinian, a Dr. Robert.[101] The rumor went from mouth to mouth that he had been at the bottom of the theft. He heard it and indignantly denied it to the Methodist pastor, who of course said he did not believe a word of it. But alas! when brother Roberts' well was cleaned out, the clapper was at the bottom, much to his dismay and disgust. Uncle Sam Anthony[102] followed brother Duncan and that spring licensed me to exhort, through the agency of Green B. Haygood. . . .

". . . I heard William G. Brownlow preach and lecture in the First Methodist, then Wesley Chapel. He was very bitter in his denunciation of Mrs. [Harriet Beecher] Stowe, and the Yankees generally. The young temperance people had a convention in Atlanta in 1850, and Judge George Hillyer [103] and myself were among the orators of the occasion.

"McPherson's book store was the only one in the up country, and had a pretty good supply of books and fancy goods. Among our visitors, for I was the only clerk, were many fine people. One was a dignified gentleman who came in his carriage with two bright little girls. One of these was your contributor, Mrs. [W. H.] Felton, the other her sister, Mrs. McLendon. Their father was Mr. Charles Latimer. Among our most regular visitors was Miss Ellen Peters, who generally brought with her a gentle little girl, now Mrs. [Nellie Peters] Black. One of the books which was in constant demand was the *Sacred Harp,* which is still popular after fifty years.

"Atlanta was now an overgrown town with none of the marks of a city. Its streets were unpaved and such a thing as a sewer was unheard of. One marshal and his assistant were the police force, and I think the mayor's salary was $250.[104] But with sublime confidence in itself the city was moving forward.

"This rather long drawn out series of recollections will come to an end with a few more articles. I have carefully avoided any attention to people living then I thought might give pain to any home now. In my mention of old Painter Smith, I had no idea there were any of his kinsfolk living, but a letter from Mississippi, written by an intelligent lady, shows me my mistake. I am glad to say the quaint old man of whom I never heard any harm, reformed, joined the church and died in peace. I regret any pain my mention of him gave. Drink was his curse, as it was the curse of many who had not his quaintness."

No. 6. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy—1848.
Atlanta *Journal,* Saturday, December 11, 1909.

". . . The city of Atlanta was never laid out except in spots. Several persons owned the land on which it was built. If I remember correctly the first owners[105] were Samuel Mitchell, who owned all the land contiguous to the railroads. . . .[106] Judge Reuben Cone had another lot;[107] Ammi Williams, father-in-law of L. P. Grant, a large body on the southeast side;[108] the Ivy estate, a large body on the northeast side. . . .[109]

"Whitehall Street was named for the old tavern of Charner Humphries in what is now West End; Forsyth named for A. B. Forsyth; Pryor, for Col. [Allen] Pryor, a surveyor; Washington named in honor of the truthful George; Loyd, for Capt. James Loyd; Decatur, for the town to which it led; Collins[110] for James A. Collins. Alabama was so named because the Alabama wagons followed it on their way west; Hunter after a civil engineer;[111] Peters, after Richard Peters; Garnett, after Colonel [C. F. M.] Garnett, and Walton after A. W. Walton. I think these were all the streets then marked out.

"My father was very anxious to remedy the bend which Whitehall makes at Alabama and make a straight avenue to Peachtree. He urged the building of a bridge which would have been between the viaduct and the Broad Street bridge, but the city would not stand the expense of a wooden bridge.[112]

"I think there were no other streets then laid out, but numberless pathways from the cabins to the woods. There were long rows of cheap houses along the Alabama Road and the McDonough Road, where no streets were as yet laid out. The first work of the city was to clear the streets of stumps, which was by no means an easy job. No pavements had been heard of. In front of the stores on Whitehall were wooden platforms raised a foot or more from the surface. Crossing the streets was quite a task. All the men wore boots in those days, and with their pants legs in their boots they defied the mud.

"The calaboose was the only prison and stood on an elevation made by the earth dumped from the railways. It was unoccupied when I first saw it, save that it had in it the remains of some limestone. It served during Formwalt's mayoralty and for awhile during Norcross'.[113] Formwalt, I think, never used it, and when old Jonathan did, the rowdies turned it over and released the prisoners. All the space now included between Alabama and the railroad was vacant then, except where the M. & W. R. R. had its depot, and the Georgia R. R. shops. There was a gushing spring on Alabama, which I was told was the head of South River.

"This year [1848] James McPherson opened the first book store in Atlanta. He was connected with William C. Richards, an Englishman and a cousin of R. H. Richards, who was one of the founders of the Atlanta National Bank. His shop had been the doctor's shop of a Dr. Edwards. The collection of books could not have been large. It was near my father's office and so I visited it and became quite a youthful friend of the genial Scotchman, by descent, who kept it.

"One day Col. Bonner, who had just published a map of Georgia, and had a pocket edition, asked Mr. McPherson if he could recommend a boy to him who would sell his 50¢ map at the cars. I was recommended and began my business career as a map seller. I got 20% I think, but few people wanted maps. Mr. McPherson suggested I should take some cheap novels to the cars, and, when I could not sell maps, I might sell novels. It was in the days when there were no news butchers and I think I was among the first in the U. S.

"While I was engaged in my news-butchering the army in Mexico was disbanded, and the conquering heroes came through Atlanta on their way north. They were hungry for news and one of them asked me to find him a New York paper. The Miscellaney office was nearby and I got him one for which he offered to pay, but I was too patriotic for that. He insisted, and paid several times its worth. Others called for papers and while I broke up the Miscellany's collection, I could not meet the demand. So I was the first newsboy in Atlanta. We were not stuck up in those days. . . ."

No. 7. Recollections of An Atlanta Boy—1851 to 1853.

Atlanta *Journal, Saturday,* April 23, 1910.

"I do not propose in these gossipy articles to be exact as to dates. The romance period of Atlanta had pretty well passed before 1857. Everything had settled down to steady work. The western trade was pretty well lost, but a profitable business had sprung up with Tennessee, and the young city had much trade from North Georgia. Atlanta was no longer so great a cotton and grocery market, but was a distributing point for western produce. It came down the Tennessee to London, where it met the East Tennessee & Virginia road and was thence shipped to Atlanta, and sold to the cotton belt.

"James E. Williams did a large business with East Tennessee. So did Seago and Abbott, Clark and Grubb, and sundry others, who sold immense quantities of bacon and corn to the planters in middle Georgia.

"Atlanta continued to grow; new streets were opened and old streets were extended. The city government had been a mere government in name. Snake Nation was given over to iniquity, and Murrel's Row nobly deserved its name. The license for whiskey dens was small and they had things their own way. Boys met in billiard rooms and threw their coins in the pool, and feared no man. Faro banks held an almost open session, and vile women visited their paramours in the daytime without shame. There was only one marshal and a deputy, and there was a city of two miles in diameter to oversee.

"But when Jonathan Norcross was elected [mayor in 1851] against the will of the rowdies, the battle was gained. I was in the store where I clerked, on Whitehall Street, when the marshal, William McConnell, came hurriedly to the door and said to Mr. McPherson, 'I summon you to go to Decatur Street to suppress a riot.' There was open war. One of the gamblers had defied arrest. At last a brave fellow walked up to him and he surrendered. He was put in the calaboose. The rowdies got together and prized up the logs and let him out. Then they got the old cannon and loaded it with powder and bellowed defiance at the authorities. The leading spirit was arrested and a night session of the mayor's court was held. He was ordered to prison but whipped out a bowie knife and struck at the daring Jonathan across the table. 'Then such a getting downstairs you never did see,' as the old song has it, but the prisoner went to prison nevertheless and he did not get out. The next day was Sunday, but a mayor's court was called at Davis Hall[114] and the rioters were all fined. A vigilance committee was organized, headed by a young Virginia teacher, Mr. [Alexander N.] Wilson, and the gentlemen of the green table subsided, though I think the faro bank still clicked over the barroom on Alabama Street.

"That summer, I think, the agricultural fair was held in Atlanta.[115] A large lot was secured on the outskirts of the city and plain houses were built, after which the fair was opened. It would be considered a very tame thing now, but it was agricultural and mechanical and educational. There were addresses every day and the exhibits were very creditable for those times. It was, in its moral features, vastly beyond any we have lately had in Georgia, or are likely to have.

"The first postmaster in Atlanta was George W. Collier[116] and the post office was located at the corner of Decatur and Peachtree.[117] Mr. Collier was an excellent officer, but he was a Democrat.

"When General Taylor was elected the Whigs lost no time in making a change, and appointed a very warm hearted, quick tempered little man who had done much merchandising in the storehouse on the corner of Alabama and Whitehall.[118] He moved the office there, but soon tired of the job. It was by no means a fat plum and demanded much work. He knew my father's practice was small and believed he would make a good postmaster. So through his influence and that of Mr. Stephens and Mr. Toombs, my father was appointed in October, 1851.[119]

"The storehouse of Mr. Smith had been sold and the office had to be removed. A central office was small, and since an upstairs room could be secured for a temporary office while the 3-story brick on the opposite corner was being completed, my father took that. I was not quite 16, but, straining the law, I was made a post office clerk.

"My father and I rose at 3 o'clock those winter mornings and made our way through the unlighted streets to the office to receive the mail, and then spent all the day till late at night making it up and delivering it. I remember it was so cold an icicle a foot long formed on the end of the stove pipe, while the stove was so hot on the inside. It was a right trying time for a lad of my age, but in January when my brother's time was up in the store in which he clerked, he came to our relief.

"The office did not pay but $800 and box rent, and out of that the rent of the room was to be paid by the postmaster. So we did not get rich. My dear, patient mother toiled in the schoolroom, and my father and his boys in the office. Consequently we were independent and did not have to sell whiskey, as many did, to get along. That summer the Parr Building was completed, and we had two good rooms for an office provided. My father had put in the first lock boxes in Atlanta, and as my brother and I could sleep at the office, he no longer had so trying a time. The next year I went to school to Mr. [Joel T.] Ginty.

". . . He (Mr. McGinty) was a most excellent teacher and had the quality most in demand in those days, the art of controlling bad boys. He was a disciplinarian of the old type, somewhat modified. The woods were full of small hickories in those days. He kept a good supply on his desk and had the strength and courage to use them. I found him always courteous, kind and competent.

"My school days were not the brightest in my life, for I had to spend very many hours at night and on Saturdays and Sundays at work among the mail bags. I found no young saints among my school fellows, and it is a somewhat sad thought that so many of them came to early graves because of vice, and especially the vice of drinking. Their fathers tippled and drank to excess."

So end the reminiscences of George Gilman Smith. They throw much light, in an interesting and informal manner, upon the growing pains of the young City of Atlanta of a century ago. We owe him a debt of gratitude for committing them to writing.

Many of the older streets of Atlanta bear the names of the pioneers of the 1840's. In some instances the street name is the only tangible memorial to the memory of some of the pioneers, a number of whom rest in unmarked graves. As a matter of interesting record, some of the names follow:

Street Name	Named For
Alexander Street, N.E. & N.W.	Dr. James F. Alexander
Angier Avenue, N.E.	Dr. Nedom L. Angier
Biggers Street, S.E.	Dr. Stephen T. Biggers
Calhoun Street (now Piedmont Avenue)	James M. Calhoun
Collins Street, S.E.	James A. Collins
Connally Street, S.E.	Patrick Connally
Crew Street, S.W.	James R. Crew

Street Name	Named For
Currier Street, N.E.	Dr. Hilliard L. Currier
D'Alvigny Street, N.W.	Dr. P. P. Noel D'Alvigny
Davis Street, N.W. & S.W.	Larkin H. Davis
Doane Street, S.W.	John A. Doane
Elliott Street, N.W.	Edmund R. Elliott
Formwalt Street, S.W.	Moses W. Formwalt
Forsyth Street, N.W. & S.W.	Ambrose B. Forsyth
Garnett Street, S.W.	Charles F. M. Garnett
Grant Street, S.E.	Lemuel P. Grant
Hayden Street, N.W.	Julius A. Hayden
Haynes Street, N.W. & S.W.	Reuben Haynes
Houston Street, N.E.	Oswald Houston
Hulsey Street. N.W.	Eli J. Hulsey
Hunnicutt Street, N.W.	Calvin W. Hunnicutt
King Street, S.E.	John P. King, of Augusta, President, Georgia R. R., at time it was built to Atlanta
Kontz Avenue (now Atlantic Drive, N.W.)	Christian Kontz
Krog Street, N.E.	Frederick Krog
Latimer Street, N.W.	Henry B. Latimer
Lawshe Street, S.W.	Rev. Lewis Lawshe
Loyd Street (now Central Avenue, S.W.)	James Loyd
Luckie Street, N.W.	Alexander F. Luckie
Mangum Street, N.W. & S.W.	Nathaniel Mangum
McDaniel Street, S.W.	Ira O. McDaniel
Mills Street, N.W.	Joseph G. W. Mills
Mitchell Street, S.W.	Samuel Mitchell
Nelson Street, S.W.	Allison Nelson
Norcross Street, S.W.	Jonathan Norcross
Peters Street, S.W.	Richard Peters
Pryor Street, N.W. & S.W.	Allen W. Pryor
Pulliam Street, S.W.	Albert C. Pulliam
Simpson Street, N.W.	Leonard C. Simpson
Smith Street, S.W.	L. Windsor Smith
Strong Street, N.W.	Cicero H. Strong
Walton Street, N.W.	Anderson W. Walton
Wheat Street (now Auburn Avenue)	Augustus W. Wheat
Williams Street, N.W.	Ammi Williams
Williams Mill Road, N.E.	Frederick A. Williams
Windsor Street, S.W.	L. Windsor Smith

NOTES—CHAPTER 27

[1] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 702; Obituary of J. W. Rucker, *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 13, 1900.

[2] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 597.

[3] *Ibid.,* 628.

[4] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 136-137; U. S. Census, 1850, Atlanta, lists C. R. Hanleiter as "telegraphic operator".

[5] Records, Western Union Telegraph Company, Southeastern Division Headquarters, Atlanta.

[6] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 17; Nixon, "Luminary", 1st Newspaper, *loc. cit.*

[7] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 17.

[8] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 122.

[9] Masthead of the issue of Feb. 1, 1856, collection of Franklin M. Garrett.

[10] Feldman "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 17; Nixon, "Luminary", *loc. cit.*

[11] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 9.

[12] Milton Dargan Hopkins, "Advice to a Bride of 1849", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 18, 1934.

[13] Walter McElreath, "Sidney Root, Merchant Prince and Great Citizen", *A.H.B.*, XXIX (Oct., 1944), 174.

[14] "Garrett's Necrology".

[15] Hopkins, "Advice to a Bridge of 1849", *loc. cit.*

[16] "Garrett's Necrology".

[17] Kurtz, "Story of Land Lot 77", *loc. cit.*, 50-59.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] *Ibid.*

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] The third, also built by Johnson and called The Johnson House, was on the east side of Whitehall Street, midway the block between Hunter and Mitchell, *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126.

[27] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126; Garrett's Necrology".

[28] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126; City Directories, 1859, 1867.

[29] Reed, *Atlanta,* 64; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 28.

[30] Reed, *Atlanta,* 64.

[31] Barker, "Council Minutes," *loc. cit.*, 30-31.

[32] He failed to prevail. Whitehall Street between the railroad and Alabama Street has never been straightened. The first Whitehall-Peachtree bridge was not built until 1901.

[33] Forsyth Street remained a grade crossing at the railroad until 1891.

[34] The first city bond issue of record.

[35] Year of birth on tombstone at Oakland Cemetery given as 1818. Doubtless an error. The stone was not erected until many years after Dr. Bomar's death, which occurred in 1868.

[36] T. D. Killian, "A Sketch of the Life of Dr. B. F. Bomar, Atlanta's Second Mayor", *A.H.B.*, V (Apr., 1931), 5-9.

[37] *Ibid.*

[38] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[39] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1849, Book B.

[40] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1849.

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] *Ibid.*, 1850, p. 488; Candler, *De Kalb County,* 7.

[43] Dr. Hoyle lived on the present site of Agnes Scott College facing the Georgia Railroad.

[44] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1849.

[45] *Ibid.*

[46] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb; "Garrett's Necrology".

[47] South River.

[48] White, *Statistics,* 204-206.

[49] Not then called West End. The author doubtless referred to Charner Humphries' White Hall settlement.

[50] Robert M. Clarke and Thomas F. Grubb.

[51] Smith probably meant Davis & Lester, composed of Larkin H. Davis and Wade H. Lester.

[52] John J. Thrasher and his brother-in-law.

[53] Grandfather of the late J. Terence Doonan, president of the Harrison Co., law book publishers and dealers.

[54] Ira O. McDaniel, Alexander Weldon Mitchell, and Eli J. Hulsey.

[55] Native of Preston, Connecticut.

[56] Probably George, a native of Massachusetts.

[57] Meaning lower Whitehall Street.

[58] The home purchased by Peters from Samuel G. Jones in 1847, Forsyth and Mitchell streets.

[59] The Terminal Hotel stood at the northeast corner of Spring and Mitchell streets until its destruction by fire in 1938.

[60] Present First National Bank corner.

[61] This homicide occurred in Dec., 1851. It is treated fully in the chapter of this work covering that year.

[62] Formerly Empire, now C. & S. National Bank Bldg.

[63] 22 Marietta Street Bldg., erected in 1911.

[64] Northeast corner Marietta and Mills streets.

[65] In Land Not 81, just north of North Ave. Probably on high ground along the present Wallace Street betwen Marietta and State streets.

[66] Old City Hall site, northwest corner Marietta and Forsyth.

[67] Old Union Station between Pryor Street and Central Ave.

[68] Widow of Hardy Ivy.

[69] It was about this time that Dr. Fonerdon, former editor of the "Democrat", together with his wife, left Atlanta for Murray County, Ga., *A.H.B.*, XXII, 213.

[70] Probably Lee Walton, as distinguished from Anderson W. Walton, owner of the Walton Spring property.

[71] Wesley Chaped.

[72] Central Avenue. See Chapter 29, 1851, of the present work.

[73] Now Capitol Avenue.

[74] Jan. 29, 1848.

[75] Sept., 1848.

[76] Born in East Haddam, Conn., but long a resident of Greensboro, Ga., where he died in 1859, and is buried.

[77] A true bill was found against Judge Cone by the De Kalb Grand Jury for the Sept. term, 1848, of which Jonathan B. Wilson was foreman, this being the same jury that indicted William Terrell for the murder of James McWilliams. Judge Cone was arraigned and plead guilty to the charge. Sol. Gen. A. C. Ferrell prosecuted the case, the details of which are not set forth in the Minutes of the Superior Court, Book B.

[78] Old Constitution Bldg., southeast corner Forsyth and Alabama.

[79] Rudolph Van Abele, *Alexander H. Stephens, A Biography* (New York, 1946), 116, gives the date of the Cone-Stephens encounter as Sept. 3, 1848.

[80] Native of Connecticut.

[81] Willis Buell was the first Justice of the Peace of the 1026th, or Atlanta Militia District, having been commissioned Mar. 30, 1847.

[82] Erected 1848, northeast corner Whitehall and Hunter streets.

[83] Mr. Smith is probably in error here. This hotel was doubtless the Johnson House, owned by Allen E. Johnson.

[84] R. U. Hightower.

[85] Meaning, in all probability, the line from the W. & A. R. R., at Kingston, to Rome, at the head of navigation on the Coosa River.

[86] Only temporarily. They were responsible for some loss of wagon trade, but soon became a continuing asset to the city.

[87] Isaac B. Pilgrim (1832-1917), well-known Atlanta printer.

[88] William R. Hanleiter (1839-1916), son of C. R. Hanleiter. He lived for many years in Griffin, Ga., where he died and is buried.

[89] Immediately southwest of the present Terminal Station.

[90] Allen E. Johnson served as Sheriff of De Kalb County from Jan. 12, 1850 to Jan. 16, 1851.

[91] Until 1900, southeast corner Alabama and Pryor streets, the location referred to by Mr. Smith.

[92] The Fulton House. The Johnson House was on Whitehall Street.

[93] Grandfather of our present fellow-citizens, Henry A., and Cecil A. Alexander.

[94] Silas A. Cooper, Pastor, Wesley Chapel, first part of 1850.

[95] James L. Pierce, Pastor, Wesley Chapel, latter part of 1850.

[96] Pastor, Wesley Chapel, 1851; Rector St. Philip's, 1865-1871.

[97] Pastor, Wesley Chapel, 1852-1853. Founded Evans' Chapel, 1853, corner Stonewall and Chapel, then Race Track Street.

[98] Willis Peck (1806-1883) was born in Raleigh, N. C., and moved to Atlanta about 1848. He was a plasterer by trade and was one of Atlanta's best pioneer citizens. During, or just after the War Between the States, he purchased the northwest corner of Peachtree and Cain streets, running through to Spring, residing there until his death.

[99] The church no longer exists. It stood on the present site of the old Walker Street School building until 1913.

[100] Pastor Wesley Chapel, 1854.

[101] Rev. W. A. Robert, Pastor, First Baptist Church, 1851-1854.

[102] Pastor, Wesley Chapel, part of 1855.

[103] Then a youth of 15.

[104] The Charter of 1847 fixed the mayor's salary at $200 per year.

[105] Not the original grantees from the State.

[106] Land Lot 77.

[107] Land Lot 78.

[108] Ammi Williams had extensive holdings in Land Lot 78, purchased from Reuben Cone. L. P. Grant bought Land Lot 52, southeast of the business section, from John T. Waller, of Hancock County, half on June 24, 1844 and half on July 27, 1844. De Kalb Deed Book H, 346, 391.

[109] Land Lot 51.

[110] Now Courtland Street, except for a short stretch under the Washington Street viaduct, still called Collins.

[111] The present writer has never seen any other reference to civil engineer Hunter, and is of the opinion that the street was named for Alston Hunter Green. See Chapter 25 of the present work.

[112] All grade crossings at this time.

[113] Referring to the first calaboose at Alabama and Pryor. See Chapter 26 of the present work.

[114] West side of Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell streets.

[115] It was held in 1850. See Chapter 28 of the present work.

[116] Mr. Collier was holding the office when the name of Marthasville was changed to Atlanta, and, was thus technically Atlanta's first postmaster. However, he had two Marthasville predecessors, F. C. Arms and E. B. Reynolds.

[117] Only during Mr. Collier's tenure.

[118] Jonas S. Smith.

[119] Dr. George G. Smith served as Postmaster at Atlanta from Oct. 7, 1851 to Mar. 3, 1855.

Section VI

THE EIGHTEEN-FIFTIES

Ante-Bellum Days. Atlanta Becomes a County Seat

CHAPTER 28

1850

THE decade of the 1840's represents the basic formative period in the development of Atlanta. Indeed the thirteen years after 1837, when its site was chosen as the terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, can well be characterized as a mould in which the city was cast.

The pioneer railroads cast the mould physically, and, to a large extent, shaped the land usage pattern and the conformation of the city for years to come. The tracks of the first three lines, the Western and Atlantic, Georgia, and Macon and Western were routed along ridges, with the simple objective of reaching a given point by following the lines of least resistance. Those three roads, entirely independent of each other, were built as complementary units and were not subject to competition. Each was free to choose its route, and none was influenced by previously established industrial districts. Such districts developed after the railroad pattern was set. The city itself grew around the framework provided by the railroads. The specific location of the city was first decided almost exclusively in terms of railroad transportation, for certainly its site had only potential value until iron rails made it economically accessible and uniquely focal with respect to the cultural pattern of the southeast.[1]

The end of Atlanta's formative decade coincided with the enumeration of the seventh U. S. Census. This convenient circumstance enables us to secure an accurate picture of where our original citizens came from and what they did after they arrived.

The census gave the total population of the United States as 23,191,876, a 36% increase over 1840. Of the 1,713,251 immigrants from Europe during the decade, 1,047,763 came from Great Britain, chiefly Ireland. Of this group Atlanta seems to have secured a proportionate share. The center of population in 1850 was 23 miles southeast of Parkersburg, West Virginia.[2]

The following general statistics relative to De Kalb County are illuminating:[3]

Number of Dwellings	1,792
Number of Familes	1,794
Males, White	5,704
Females, White	5,668
Free Negroes, Male	9
Free Negroes, Female	23
Slaves	2,994
Total Population	14,398

Farmers	1,019
Manufacturing Establishments	45
Value of Real Estate	$1,669,810
Value of Personal Estate	$1,721,560
Number Persons Employed in Agriculture	1,648
Professional and Engineers	13
Pensioners for Revolutionary Service	7
Blind	4
White—Insane, Idiots at public charge	2
White—Insane, Idiots at private charge	4
Colored—Blind	2
Number Academies and Graded Schools	2
Scholars	77
Private and Common Schools	10
Number Scholars	245
Number of White Persons over 20 years, Illiterate	435

The task of enumerating the individual population of De Kalb County was performed by William Goldsberry, Assistant Marshal. After obtaining information in all of the Militia Districts and the Town of Decatur he began work in Atlanta on November 6th and finished November 19th. His final tally gave the city a white population of 2,058 plus 18 free Negroes and 493 slaves. A total of 394 persons were classified as "Heads of Families". An analysis of this group as to place of birth and occupation is interesting since it shows where Atlanta's pioneers came from and how they earned their daily bread.

Heads of Families born in:

Alabama	2	New Jersey	2
Connecticut	4	New York	4
Delaware	1	North Carolina	44
England	5	On Sea	1
Europe, country not specified	4	Pennsylvania	5
France	3	Scotland	1
Georgia	154	South America	1
Germany	7	South Carolina	114
Ireland	14	Tennessee	7
Maine	2	Vermont	1
Massachusetts	3	Virginia	12
		Left blank	3

It will be noted that Ireland contributed more family heads than any of the States of the Union except the Carolinas and Georgia; also that neighboring Alabama was claimed as a birthplace by only two citizens. However, if it were possible to compile a list of the states to which early citizens of De Kalb emigrated, Alabama, with the possible exception of Texas, would head the list.[4]

The occupational breakdown for family heads in Atlanta a century ago follows:

Bailiff	1
Blank—no entry in occupation	54
Blacksmith	6
Boarding House	2
Boilermaker	1
Bookkeeper	1
Bootmaker	3
Brickmaker	7
Brickmason	7
Butcher	2
Cabinet Work	3
Carpenter	70
Carriagemaker	4
City Marshal	1
Civil Engineer	1
Clergyman	8
Clerk	11
Commission Merchant	1
Dentist	1
Druggist	1
Engineer (probably locomotive)	7
Farmer	10
Firing Engine	3
Grocer	10
Gunsmith	1
Hatter	1
Innkeeper	4
Laborer	21
Lawyer	5
Livery Stable	3
Machinist	5
Mail Agent	2
Mechanic	4
Merchant	38
Miller	2
Millwright	2
None—so entered in occupation column	31
Painter	6
Physician	8
Plasterer	1
Postmaster	1
Printer	3
R. R. Agent	3
R. R. Engineer	3
R. R. Work	1
Saddler	2
Saddle and Harness	2
Sheriff of County	1
Shoemaker	4
Silversmith	1
Stonemason	2
Tailor	3
Tanner and Shoemaker	1
Teacher	5
Teamster	1
Telegraphic Operator	1
Tin and Coppersmith	1
Tinplate Work	3
Track Repairer	1
Wagonmaker	1
Wagoner	1
Watchman	1
Welldigger	1

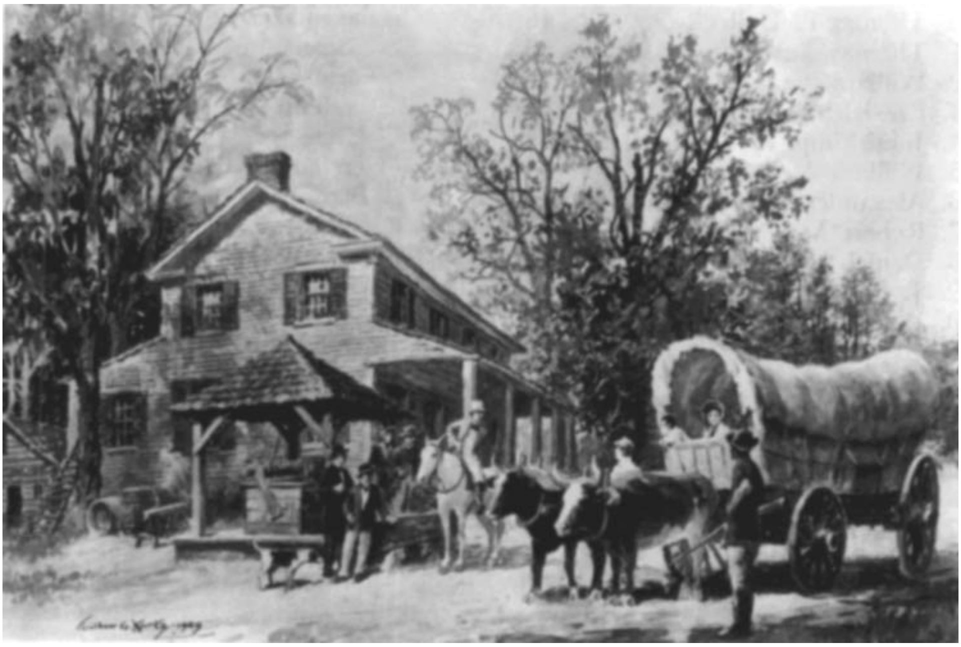
From the above it will be seen that the citizens of Atlanta who had occupations were, for the most part, working people, following the trades necessary in a new and growing community. Judging however from the "blank" and "none" categories, it would appear that the town had more than its share of drones. A few of the individuals in the "none" category were elderly citizens like Reuben Cone and Stephen Terry, whose income was derived primarily from real estate holdings. Most of the citizens so designated however, were young men and, since no one was recorded as being a gambler, some of them were doubtless habitués of Murrel's Row.

The "blank" category, on the other hand, was composed almost exclusively of female family heads. Some were widows and were ladies of high repute, though not many could be so classified since the average age of adults in the Atlanta of 1850 was only 35. The inescapable conclusion is that the majority of the "blank" ladies were of the Belle Watling persuasion. By the time the census taker came around in 1860 they had become more forthright. The "blanks" were properly filled in.

Willis Buell, the "City Mayor", as he was classified in the census, was not enumerated as the head of a family since he boarded at the home of the City Marshal, German M. Lester.

Other occupations represented by Atlanta citizens of 1850, not recorded as family heads were: marketing, railroad conductor, barber (all colored), Daguerreotypist, agent for iron works, mail guard, barkeeper, iron foundry-man, mail carrier, peddler, and baggagemaster.

Because of the fact that the Atlanta census of 1850 has been published in full,[5] it will not be repeated here. Space will not permit publication of that part of the census pertaining to the various Militia Districts, but the "Family Heads", 87 in number, residing at Decatur, the county seat are herewith listed, together with their age, occupation and place of birth. Some will be recognized as future well-known citizens of Atlanta.[6]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Buckhead in 1850. Henry Irby's tavern and store, Pace's Ferry and Roswell Roads

	Name	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
1.	William Hill	52	Merchant	Va.
2.	James Ferrell	56	None	Ireland
3.	J. W. Kirkpatrick	31	Merchant	Ga.
4.	H. T. Hall	50	(Blank)	(Blank)
5.	William A. David	49	Carpenter	Ga.
6.	Willis Browning	64	None	N. C.
7.	Jane Pendley	51	(Blank)	Ga.
8.	R. C. Buchanan	24	Tanning	Ga.
9.	John B. Holly	21	Wagonmaker	Ga.
10.	Allen Woodall	43	Farming	S. C.
11.	Jesse Farrar	44	None	Va.
12.	Berryman D. Shumate	50	Bricklayer	S. C.

	Name	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
13.	John Durham	37	Saddlery	S. C.
14.	Lucinda Scott	39	(Blank)	Ga.
15.	J. M. Holly	52	Carriagemaker	N.C.
16.	Hiram J. Holly	23	Chairmaker	Ga.
17.	Merrill Humphries	40	Shoemaker	S. C.
18.	Samuel H. Wilson	48	Attend Mill	S. C.
19.	Hiram R. Delay	43	Cabinetmaker	S. C.
20.	Thomas F. Hall	46	Carriagemaker	Ga.
21.	Thomas Austin	66	Farmer	N. C.
22.	William Veal	71	Farmer	Va.
23.	Ezekiel Mason	51	Merchant	S. C.
24.	John Simpson	54	None	S. C.
25.	William A. Powell	25	Merchant	Ga.
26.	Alexander Johnson	35	(Blank)	Ga.
27.	Robert M. Brown	37	(Blank)	N. C.
28.	Daniel Adams	23	Tin Plate Work	Ga.
29.	J. B. Wilson	48	Hatter	N. C.
30.	William Ezzard	51	Lawyer	Ga.
31.	Gardner Adams	25	Merchant	Mass.
32.	John N. Swift	34	Merchant	Ga.
33.	Elijah Rosser	25	Merchant	Ga.
34.	Nancy McCrary	49	(Blank)	S. C.
35.	Isaac Rosser	71	P. M. Clergy	N. C.
36.	Jane E. Bowie	40	(Blank)	S. C.
37.	Nancy Cameron	55	(Blank)	S. C.
38.	James McGinnis	24	Mechanic	N. C.
39.	Robert Davis	50	Farming	S. C.
40.	Jesse Anderson	52	Laborer	N. C.
41.	Lavena Robinson	32	(Blank)	S. C.
42.	Robert Jones	51	(Blank)	N. C.
43.	Joseph A. Reeves	48	Merchant	Ga.
44.	James McNeal	72	Saddlery	(Blank)
45.	Riley M. Willingham	41	Carpenter	(Blank)
46.	James Blackstock	30	Tailor	Tenn.
47.	Elizabeth A. Butler	35	(Blank)	Ga.
48.	Elizabeth Wilkerson	60	(Blank)	N. C.
49.	Eliza Nisbet	47	(Blank)	S. C.
50.	Thomas Reynolds	25	Cabinet Work	Ga.
51.	David Floyd	50	Laborer	S. C.
52.	D. S. Floyd	25	? maker	Tenn.
53.	E. N. Calhoun	50	Physician	Ga.
54.	Levi Willard	47	Merchant	Mass.
55.	Walter Wadsworth	49	Tin Plate Worker	Conn.
56.	Jesse L. Williams	35	Merchant	N. C.
57.	John S. Wilson	53	Pres. Clergyman	N. C.
58.	James R. McAllister	29	Tailor	N. J.
59.	W. F. Chewning	47	Farmer	Ga.
60.	Ammi Williams	60	None	Conn.
61.	John J. Williams	31	R. R. Repairs	Ga.

Name	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth
62. James M. Calhoun	39	Lawyer	S. C.
63. James B. Buchanan	51	Carpenter	S. C.
64. Wesley Tilley	45	Well Digger	N. C.
65. Eli Holsomback	22	Painting	S. C.
66. J. Morgan	50	Cabinet and Chair Maker	Mass.
67. L. S. Morgan	45	Cabinet and Chair Maker	Mass.
68. Charles Murphey	51	Lawyer	S. C.
69. Peter F. Hoyle	39	Physician	N. C.
70. Daniel Stone	49	R. R. Agent	N. C.
71. Lemuel P. Grant	32	R. R. Engineer	Maine
72. Thena Douglass	50	(Blank)	Ga.
73. T. B. George	50	Innkeeper	Ga.
74. Cullin Linsey	50	Laborer	S. C.
75. Elijah L. Bird	22	Carriagemaker	Ga.
76. Thomas P. Ivy	30	Blacksmith	S. C.
77. Henry A. Dorsey	24	Blacksmith	Ga.
78. Nathaniel Johnson	25	Farmer	S. C.
79. William Dearing	65	Farmer	Va.
80. Henry B. Hill	54	Innkeeper	N. C.
81. Thomas Rape	37	Carpenter	N. C.
82. Jeremiah Waits	56	Farmer	N. C.
83. Thomas Knight	32	Chair Maker	S. C.
84. Thomas Wallace	35	(Blank)	Ga.
85. A. Alexander	48	Merchant	Ga.
86. Jesse Robinson	48	Carpenter	Ga.

The following gentlemen were commissioned as officers of De Kalb County on January 12, 1950; Allen E. Johnson, Sheriff; Robert M. Brown, Clerk, Superior Court; Alexander Johnson, Clerk, Inferior Court; John Hawkins, Tax Receiver; Robert Jones, Surveyor; William Johnston, Coroner. On April 30, Francis M. White was commissioned Tax Collector.[7] Mr. White was a son of William W. White, pioneer settler of the present Oakland City section of Atlanta, and lived 75 more years, dying in 1925 at the age of 99.[8]

The City of Atlanta, too, acquired a new slate of officers in January, 1850. Magistrate Willis Buell of the 1026th Militia District was elected Mayor and functioned in a dual capacity during the year. Councilmen elected to serve with him were Joel Kelsey, Henry C. Holcombe, J. T. Humphries, Patterson M. Hodge, Dr. S. T. Biggers and William W. Roark. The city officers who had served in 1849 continued in office except that John G. Trammell was elected marshal. Apparently he found the job distasteful, for he resigned in February and was succeeded by former marshal German M. Lester.[9]

A resume of affairs handled by Mayor Buell and his associates, as taken from Council Minutes for the year, will serve to illuminate some of their trials and tribulations.

Jan. 1850.	Circus in Atlanta, January 28 and 29. To pay $25 tax.
Feb. 16.	Council decided to have sidewalks constructed on each street, eight feet wide, and that owners of lots might plant ornamental trees along such sidewalks.[10] Council proceedings to be published in the Atlanta *Intelligencer,* the editor agreeing to make no charge for so doing.

Mar. 1.	Tax of $1 on every slave sold in the town.
Mar. 9.	Resolved that the Mayor, the Marshal, and one member of Council superintend all work done on the streets.
Mar. 11.	Faro dealers and gambling to be prosecuted.
Mar. 28.	John L. Harris and John Collier, attorneys, were employed to defend a case against the city.[11]
April 19.	Resolved that Street Committee attend to a pond near the crossing of Hunter and Forsyth streets.
April 21.	Two night watchmen to patrol the city from 10 o'clock till daylight, and to be paid $20 each per month.
May 10.	Resolved that the Street Committee be authorized and required to open the old road running through Mr. Oslin's plantation.[12]
	Resolved that Dr. Cheek has permission to shoot, on his own premises, such birds as eat bees.
June 7.	List of non-tax payers furnished the superintendents of elections. The City had no registration of voters at this time.
June 7.	Resolved, Whereas the illegal traffic of slaves and free persons of color in the produce of the farms, poultry yards and dairys of this county is oppressive upon the Citizens of Atlanta and contravenes public policy;
	Resolved, that it shall be the duty of the Marshal to seize and sell all such chickens, eggs, butter, pork or other produce of the farms, dairy and poultry yards, which he may find in possession of any slave, or free person of color, without legal authority, exceeding the value of one dollar, to be estimated by the Marshal, and that the proceeds of such sale be paid into the City Treasury for public use.
June 28.	Work done on Decatur Street. If person failed to pay a fine he was sent to the guard house for 24 hours.
Aug. 17.	Resolved that the steps along Whitehall Street shall not project on the sidewalk more than two feet.
Sept. 13.	Antonio Maquino's petition for leave to retail spirituous liquors for one day at Walton Spring, was rejected.
Oct. 9.	Camping prohibited in the City except in licensed wagon yards.
Oct. 18.	The Marshal was paid $15 for removing dead hogs.
Nov. 15.	William Henry, having lost his horse, surrendered his draying license, and fees were remitted.
	All work amounting to more than five dollars was let by Council by sealed proposals.
Dec. 9.	Committee on the Poor were granted $10 for use of the poor.[13]

As the city officials of Atlanta were concerned with problems concerning physical improvements, slaves and law breakers, so were the grand juries empaneled during the year. The jury serving for the first week of the September, 1850 term, commented as follows:

". . . We have, through a committee, examined our public buildings. We find that the new jail is not yet completed, but learn that it will be done in a few days, and we find the work neatly and substantially done, highly creditable to our Inferior Court; Mr. [John] Bryce, the contractor and Judge [L. S.] Morgan, superintendent of the work.

"The Court House we find in good repair except windows, and recommend the proper authorities to have them repaired, and attend more strictly to have the blinds fastened, either when open or shut. We have examined the old jail and find it kept in a manner highly creditable to the Jailor, Mr. [Robert] Jones.

"We also recommend the citizens of our County owning Slaves to prohibit them from attending public meetings of any kind, except going to church under the supervision of white persons, as we believe such a course has a tendency to injure the slave and consequently the owner, at these times of excitement, particularly in the South.

"From the number of criminal cases which have come before this body, we are sorry to say there has not been that improvement in the morals of a portion of our citizens that we would have wished, and unless some beneficial changes, lament the condition of our County Treasury."[14]

The presentments closed with a tribute to Judge E. Y. Hill and expressions of thanks to Solicitor General M. M. Tidwell.

"Peter F. Hoyle, Foreman

Andrew Johnson
Richard H. Eskew
John K. Landers
Simeon Smith
Moses W. Davis
William C. Austin
James Robinson
Robert Crockett
William A. David
Elijah Steward
Charles W. McGinnis

Robert McWilliams
William W. Sentell
Ezekiel Mason
James M. Holley
Edwin Plaster
Samuel House
Thomas Farr
Edwin Payne
Berryman D. Shumate
Henry G. Dean
Samuel H. Wilson"

Some of the indictments returned by grand juries to the De Kalb Superior Court in 1850 are typical of the ante-bellum period.

At the March term, William J. Mann, well-known Atlanta merchant was indicted in the following language:

". . . For buying of a Negro man slave by the name of Asa, belonging to Lewis Peacock, 4 bushels of corn meal of value exceeding one dollar, without having written permission from the owner, overseer or employer of said slave, authorizing slave to dispose of said corn meal."

Lewis Peacock, (June 3, 1792-May 25, 1850), owner of the slave, was a pioneer settler of De Kalb County in the section near Mount Gilead Church, now southwest Fulton County, and in which church cemetery he is buried. Aside from a large farm he owned valuable property including the present site of the Connally Building, southeast corner Whitehall and Alabama streets. One of his daughters, Temperance, became the wife of Thomas W. Connally and the mother of the late Dr. Elijah Lewis Connally, of Atlanta.[16]

Also indicted during the March, 1850 term were William G., alias "Buck" Heard and William M. Beasley "for stealing, on January 4, 1850, a sorrel horse of the female sex, belonging to Thomas Farr and valued at $50." Beasley plead guilty and was sentenced to three years at hard labor in the penitentiary at Milledgeville.[17]

During the year several immigrants destined to become well-known Atlantans, were admitted to United States citizenship by the De Kalb Superior Court. Among them were: Michael McShaffery, age 26, born County Donegal, Ireland; Charles Savage, age 27, born County of Kings, Ireland; Patrick Lynch, age 30, born County Meath, Ireland; John Erminger, age 26, born Hamburg, Germany; Timothy Kirby, age 24, born Ireland; Christian Kontz, age 32, born Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany; Carston Brockhan, age 37, born Hanover, Germany; Edward Cornwell, age 27, born Ireland.[18]

Christian Kontz was the founder of a well-known Atlanta family. Prior to his emigration to the United States as a young man, he had lived in France for a couple of years. He first settled in New York, where he met and married Miss Elizabeth Trabert, native of Saxony. The couple moved to Atlanta in 1848, where Mr. Kontz, a skilled shoemaker, followed his trade for several years. In 1854 he built what, for that day, was an imposing two and a half story brick residence on Marietta Street upon the present site of the old Atlanta Georgian building, between the Rhodes Building and the Federal Reserve Bank. Mr. Kontz was a linguist, speaking English, German and French fluently; a good horseman, and a lover of music, being a member of the pioneer German musical club, the Liederkranz. In his latter years Christian Kontz devoted himself to farming and horticulture, and reaped a handsome return therefrom in the home market. His farm lay immediately south of the present site of the Atlantic Steel Company along what is now 14th Street, N.W., and adjacent streets. Atlantic Drive, N.W., was, until recently, called Kontz Avenue. This useful pioneer citizen died in 1881 and is buried in Oakland Cemetery. The late Anton L. Kontz and Judge Ernest C. Kontz, both of Atlanta, were his sons.[19]

A couple of interesting roads came up for consideration during 1850. On March 4th "John Isom, William C. Austin and William W. Sentell, Esqrs., were notified and required [by the Inferior Court] to mark and lay out a road in De Kalb County commencing at the Shallowford Court Ground and running by the way of Peter Ball's, by A. Waits', by Sandy Springs Church, by the Bruce's Bridge on Nancy's Creek, intersecting with the Decatur and Atlanta Road at Buckhead."[20]

This road is, in all probability, incorporated partly in the present Roswell Road between the Hightower Trail and Buckhead and was the first road project wherein Sandy Springs Church is mentioned.

The other road represented a commendable display of private enterprise. On December 26, 1850, the Inferior Court of De Kalb County granted a charter to the Atlanta and Dahlonega Plank Road Company, composed of Jonathan Norcross, Julius A. Hayden, Barrington King, Clark Howell, Ira R. Foster, Noah Strong, and William Martin, for the purpose of constructing a Plank Graded or Macadamized road from Atlanta by Cumming through the County of Forsyth to Dahlonega.[21]

Prior to the granting of the charter, Mr. Norcross, on August 17, 1850, submitted to Council an ordinance for the City of Atlanta to subscribe $10,000 for a plank road to Dahlonega. At the August 30th Council meeting, the Norcross ordinance, including a road to Jacksonville, Alabama, via Villa Rica, was read and ordered published in the *Intelligencer*. The City was to subscribe $10,000 to each road as soon as all but the last $10,000 were subscribed.[22] The young city was not averse to participating in ambitious projects.

During the years since 1837, when Atlanta's site was determined by the terminus of the Western and Atlantic Railroad, that important project was still abuilding. Indeed it was not until 1850 that through rail service was established between Atlanta and Chattanooga.

Among the many natural obstacles to be overcome in the course of building the W. & A., the most formidable was probably Chetoogeta Mountain, between Dalton and Chattanooga. It was necessary to penetrate this obstacle with a tunnel, the first to be built in Georgia. The bore was completed in 1849 and the celebration attendant upon this engineering accomplishment is colorfully described in a letter written by William L. Mitchell and published in the Milledgeville *Federal Union* of November 1, 1849:[23]

"Yesterday morning at 11 o'clock the headings of the tunnel were driven through and met with an exactness highly creditable. Such was the excitement of the bosses and men that it was with utmost difficulty they could be restrained for a few minutes to allow the intelligence to be communicated to Mr. William Gray, chief mason, upon whom they conferred the honor of first passing through.

"The excitement was so great that nothing could control it and all work had to be suspended for the day. The feeling to celebrate this peaceful victory over nature's obstacles in some befitting manner was universal.

"Accordingly this morning a solemn procession was formed in the east and marched through the heading to the west, in the following order: William L. Mitchell, chief engineer; Lemuel Grant, chief engineer of the Atlanta and La Grange railroad; John D. Gray, chief contractor;[24] Mrs. Mary A. Hull, the first lady to pass through; the two Misses Reynolds, of Atlanta; Dr. Henry Hull, of Athens; William Gray, chief mason; Charles Linton, chief tunneler; the tunnel bosses and men; the other tunnel hands, and lastly the people generally.

"When this procession reached the west side the ceremonies began. The first bottle of wine broken was described as 'grape brandy, first quality, Sellery Morsaux', and it had come from the executive mansion itself.

"The next was old port which had been presented by Mrs. Mitchell, and that was followed by 'bland Maderia, a Georgia wine', furnished by Dr. Hugh Neisler of Clark. After that, the scuppernong was broken, and two more bottles of Madeira.

"The water from the River Jordan was saved until the last and handed about for the curious crowd to look at before the bottle was broken. The Rev. John Jones, of Marietta, had sent this gift to the chief engineer for the occasion.

"When the christening of the tunnel was over, a ten-dollar gold piece, struck from Georgia gold mined at Dahlonega was presented to William Gray, chief mason, 'as a keepsake and memorial of the year in which the great achievement was accomplished.' Other chiefs were given appropriate mementoes.

"Visitors and officials continued to arrive at the tunnel throughout the day, and the celebration went on until midnight. Among those who came was the Hon. Mark A. Cooper, who brought a cannon from his iron works at Etowah, which was planted on the top of the mountain, and seven salutes fired.

"Judge John P. King, president of the Georgia railroad, soon arrived, and the celebration began again. Another procession marched through the tunnel, this time with music furnished by the 'Sable musicians', and more bottles of wine, brought by the late comers were broken.

"There was much speechmaking, but the words of Mark Cooper are enough to indicate just what the tunnel stood for in the eyes of the people of Georgia.

" 'This, the Western and Atlantic railroad, is the first connection of the Atlantic and the Mississippi,' he said, 'The chain is now complete. This quiet opening of its grand tunnel is emblematic of its peaceful finish. The roar of Georgia's native cannon over that mountain top indicates that in time of peace we are prepared for war'."

Mr. Cooper's last statement was to be put to the test fourteen years hence.

This pioneer Georgia tunnel served its purpose well for nearly eighty years. By the 1920's larger locomotives and rolling stock required a new bore. Located just 75 feet from the mouth of the old, it was completed in 1928.[25]

At the time of the completion of the original tunnel the equipment of the road consisted of 13 locomotives, 4 passenger, 3 baggage, 4 box, and 7 platform cars. The rails were of three types, an inverted U-section, flat bar and angle iron. As the two latter were very light and entirely inadequate, much trouble was experienced in operating over the curves, of which there were many. In fact, as of January, 1850, the schedule of the "fast passenger train" from Atlanta to Dalton, 99 miles, was seven hours, or only about 14 miles per hour.[26]

From the completion of track-laying in the tunnel through the Chetoogeta Mountain on May 9, 1850, the real operating history of the W. & A., begins. For about five years however, the road had been earning a fair revenue as the successive sections were completed as far as Dalton on the north, and for a short period between Chattanooga and Tunnel Hill, where a portage over the mountain had been established. With the close of the fiscal year September 30, 1850, the construction period of the Western and Atlantic Railroad ended. However the road was far from being complete in all its details, and the reports of officers for succeeding years show many charges to capital account.[27]

The fact that the road had become a factor in transportation and needed to be handled in a manner similar to privately owned railroads, came to the attention of the Legislature. Accordingly an Act was passed and approved January 15, 1852, for the government and management of the line.[28]

Among the provisions of the Act, the Governor was authorized to appoint a superintendent whose duties were to conduct all operations of the road, and to appoint, subject to the approval of the Governor, all subordinate officers; to make mail contracts with the United States Government; settle all claims against the road, and to contract for machinery and equipment. His salary was fixed at $3,000 per annum. The Act also directed the Governor to appoint a Treasurer, at $2,000 per annum and an Auditor, at $1,500. The appointments made by the Governor, effective February 2, 1852, were, William M. Wadley, later president of the Central of Georgia Railroad, Superintendent; J. W. A. Sanford, Treasurer, and William Rutherford, Auditor.[29] The Western and Atlantic was now a full fledged railroad.

Prior to 1850 the Atlanta burying ground or cemetery lay along the west side of Peachtree Street extending from Harris Street to beyond Baker and running back to near Williams Street. It included the present site of the Capital City Club and other well-known present structures. Drury H. Silvey was sexton.[30]

This location, during the 1840's was remote, but it soon became evident that the city was destined to develop rapidly in that direction. City council took cognizance of the matter on October 4, 1849, when it appointed a committee consisting of Benjamin F. Bomar, Julius A. Hayden, Ira O. McDaniel and Ambrose B. Forsyth to "contract for a suitable graveyard for the city."[31] This committee reported a suitable tract on March 9, 1850, wherein Messrs. Reuben Cone and Ammi Williams agreed to give the city one acre of land and sell it four adjoining acres at $100 per acre. The proposal was accepted, but upon a motion to reconsider, acceptance was withdrawn and the committee dismissed.[32]

Following an abortive effort by another committee, Mayor Buell and the entire council went on a tour of inspection during May, 1850, and, failing to find what they considered reasonably priced land within the city limits, decided upon a tract just outside the limits.[33]

By deed dated June 6, 1850, a 6-acre tract, being city lots number 19, 20, 21, 22, 28 and 29, in Land Lot 45 of the 14th District of De Kalb County was purchased from Alfred W. Wooding, at $75 per acre. This tract was the nucleus of Oakland Cemetery and forms the present southwestern corner of Oakland.[34]

In 1855, a tract of 15 acres was bought from William Kay; in 1857, 4 acres from James H. Seavey, and, in 1866, 8⅓ acres from Lewis Scofield, on which was his home, for $7,000. The same year 23½ acres were acquired from L. P. Grant by trade. Other tracts were subsequently added until the present area of approximately 85 acres was secured.[35]

For many years the cemetery was called simply the Atlanta or City Cemetery. Since 1876 it has been officially known as Oakland Cemetery.[36] Following the original Wooding purchase bodies in the cemetery on Peachtree Street were removed to the new location or to other burying grounds in the country around Atlanta. Some, of course were taken to more distant points.

In March, 1851, Council provided for the sale of wood from the graveyard and authorized councilman John T. Humphries to lay off lots and have the cemetery enclosed with a post and plank fence. In April, following, Council authorized twenty lots to be sold, none for less than $10.[37]

Meanwhile, in February, 1851, the first sexton, Oliver Hazard Perry Conant had entered upon his duties. Conant's pay, and that of his early successors, depended upon burial fees rather than a salary. Since Conant's day twelve men have presided over Oakland, namely Green A. Pilgrim, John Connolly, Leonidas G. Holland, William A. Bonnell, Thomas A. Clayton, Henry H. Barefield, Richard H. Clarke, John N. Porter, John P. Henning, Lee R. Tedder, Charles B. Everitt, and the present superintendent, Bart C. Ayers.[38] Mr. Ayers is on record that he likes his job and finds it a lively one. But when he tells people he works in a cemetery, they either (1) silently reflect that his must be an awfully dull job or (2) outspokenly proclaim they "don't want to visit" him. Be that as it may, Superintendent Ayers works on historic ground and his goal to "keep the grounds as beautiful as possible" is a laudable one.[39]

The interment records of Oakland Cemetery are complete back to the first of the year 1853. What became of any preceding records, if kept, is not known. According to tradition the first direct interment at Oakland was that of a young doctor named James Nissen, who took sick while passing through Atlanta in the fall of 1850. Nissen had a mortal fear of being buried alive, which sometimes happened in those days, and requested Dr. Noel D'Alvigny to take the precaution of severing the juglar vein before burial. This was done, it is said, at the burial service. Tradition or not, there is tangible evidence that James Nissen is buried in the oldest part of Oakland, near the Hunter Street gate. A weather-beaten upright tablet bears the following inscription:[40]

IN
MEMORY OF
JAMES NISSEN
DIED SEPT. 22ND 1850

On December 7, 1860, at the request of David Mayer, President of the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation, the City donated six lots, each about 15 x 30 feet, to the Jews of Atlanta, for burials in Oakland.[41] These lots, distinguished by markers bearing both English and Hebrew inscriptions are located along Fair Street (Memorial Drive) just to the left of the Fair Street gate.

In 1896, during the mayoralty of Porter King, the present brick wall and the Hunter and Fair streets gates were erected. Nearly a decade later, in 1907, a Cemetery Committee composed of five lot owners, elected by City Council, was created. It published a book of rules and regulations. Among the prohibitions so published, were the burial of animals, the placing of fences around lots, and of shells and other such small decorations on graves. In 1932 the Cemetery Committee was dissolved and Oakland was put under the Park Board.[42]

Many calls are received at the cemetery by persons desiring to buy lots. All to no avail however, for the city "sold out" more than forty years ago. Upon very rare occasions it is possible to buy part of a lot directly from a lot owner.

Old Oakland is Atlanta's most tangible link between the past and the present. Surrounded on three sides by busy streets and bounded on the north by the Hulsey Yards of the Georgia Railroad, its more than 100,000 silent tenants range in chronology from Moses Formwalt to Margaret Mitchell, and in economic status from ante-bellum slaves to millionaires. Confederate soldiers, known and unknown, one-time paupers, senators, governors and Generals of the Confederacy rest within the red brick enclosure under handsome oaks and magnolias. Costly and ornate mausoleums and weather-beaten stones on lots under charming old wrought iron fence, bear the names of those who contributed their varied talents to the building of our great city from the days of Marthasville to the recent past. Indeed, a leisurely walk or a brief ride through Oakland reminds one of the second verse of the old ballad, "When You and I were Young, Maggie":

"A city so silent and lone, Maggie,
Where the rich and the young and the blest
In polished white mansions of stone, Maggie,
Have each found a place of rest. . . ."

The City of Atlanta was fortunate in that, until April 15, 1850, it experienced no serious conflagration and, while the fire of that date claimed no human lives, it did cause considerable property loss. It was also the primary reason for the removal from the city of one of its useful pioneer citizens.

This first fire was what might be called a "planned fire", in that it was of incendiary origin, having been set by one or more robbers for the purpose of diverting attention while they cleaned out the money drawer in the office of the Georgia Railroad freight depot. Victim of the fire was Augustus W. Wheat, who lost his store, warehouse, livery stable and several horses. These buildings were located on the south side of Alabama Street between Pryor and Loyd (Central Avenue). It is said that Mr. Wheat was insured in the Southern Mutual, at Athens, but that for some reason the company refused to pay the loss until compelled by law to do so. At any rate the old familiar store sign

"GOOD AS WHEAT"

was seen in Atlanta no more, for shortly after the fire Gus Wheat moved to old Campbell County where he devoted the remainder of his life to farming. He died late in the year 1868. His estate was appraised January 20, 1869, by John Watson, John McClure, Jackson Moates and Belford Luck, all well-known citizens of old Campbell.[43]

Prior to the Wheat fire the city authorities had taken some faltering steps in the direction of fire protection, and the Legislature, on February 23, 1850, had granted a charter to Atlanta Fire Company No. 1. The company so chartered was a volunteer organization as were all Atlanta fire companies until 1882, when the paid department was organized. The charter of No. 1 provided for a membership of 30, including 4 officers elected from and by the membership, and commissioned by the Governor as were militia officers. The Company experienced a delay of a year in starting operations.[44] It is therefore safe to assume that only a bucket brigade was available for the ineffectual protection of Mr. Wheat's property.[45]

That Atlanta Fire Company No. 1 was slow in equipping itself is indicated by the following extract from the City Council Minutes of July 11, 1851:

> "Members of Atlanta Fire Company to be exempt from street tax if they equip themselves as firemen."[46]

Between the above date and April 21, 1852, the Fire Company purchased a hand-drawn, manually operated fire engine and some 500 feet of leather hose.[47] Council Minutes for April 21, 1852, indicate that "Atlanta Fire Company was paid $319.95 for expenses assumed by the Finance Board."[48] This amount probably represented, in part at least, the cost of No. 1's modest equipment.

The records are somewhat in conflict as to whether Terence Doonan or Julius A. Hayden, served as first president of Atlanta's pioneer fire company, although Doonan was probably first and Hayden second. William W. Baldwin, a native of Bloomfield, New Jersey, and master mechanic of the Western and Atlantic Railroad was president number three, serving from 1853 to 1858. First secretary of the Company was Camillus A. Haralson, subsequently a clerk in the Post Office, and the first treasurer was Hanke Muhlenbrink, saloon keeper and cigar manufacturer.[49]

The motto of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1 was "Prompt to Action", and, after finally becoming suitably equipped, it usually was. Its uniform, adopted in 1851, was red flannel shirt with black "1" on breast; black pants; fireman's hat with "Atlanta" and "1851" and figure "1" on front piece in raised black letters and figures, and black patent leather belt with "Atlanta" in rear and slide of same material with figure "1" in front and spanner and spanner sheath. Hats of the president and foreman were white, as were the belts of all officers.[50]

The Company was re-incorporated in January, 1854, the incorporators at that time being William W. Baldwin, William Barnes, Charles C. Rodes George R. Frazer, Hanke Muhlenbrink, Bernard T. Lamb, Reuben Gardner Simon Frankford, Horace M. Mitchell, Washington J. Houston, Philip J. Immel, Lewis J. Parr, Calvin W. Hunnicutt, J. F. Reynolds, Caleb A. Whaley, John Kershaw, Albert C. Pulliam and Jeremiah D. Malone.[51]

During the same year, more than four years after its original organization, Fire Company No. 1, secured an engine house. On April 7, 1854, City Council appropriated $800 for the purpose of building such a structure.[52] The site selected was the southwest intersection of Broad, then Market Street, and the Macon and Western Railroad tracks. This entire block, extending to Alabama Street had been the site of the home and garden of Uel L. Wright,[53] former Atlanta agent of the Central Railroad and Banking Company of Georgia. Mr. Wright's local banking career had been terminated by the burglary of his agency on the night of March 16, 1852, upon which occasion more than $18,000 was stolen.[54]

By the end of 1854 Atlanta's first fire company, together with its engine, the "Blue Dick", and its 500 feet of leather hose, was safely housed. We of the present, with our splendid Fire Department, owe much to this band of pioneer citizens who gave freely of their own time to protect the young but rapidly growing community from the ravages of uncontrolled fire.

There had begun to develop in Atlanta, by 1850, a philosophy akin to that of the boy who wrote on the schoolroom blackboard "I would love to kiss our teacher", and was kept in after school only to emerge with the joyful remark "It pays to advertise!"

This desire upon the part of her forward-looking citizens, to extoll the virtues of Atlanta far and wide, become tangibly realized in August, 1850, at which time the annual Fair of the Southern Central Agricultural Society was held in the city.[55]

Since 1846 the annual fairs of the Society had been held at Stone Mountain, where that of 1849 was distinguished by the presence of P. T. Barnum with his wagon-show of animals and freaks including "Tipo Sultan", the largest elephant then in captivity.[56]

The matter of the agricultural fair engaged the discussion of City Council on March 11, 1850, at which time a committee of six composed of Alexander F. Luckie, Joseph Thompson, Patterson M. Hodge, Julius A. Hayden, William Ezzard and Benjamin F. Bomar, was appointed to solicit subscriptions. By April 5 the necessary sum of $1,000 was in sight, which inspired council on April 10 to pass a resolution that a conveyance to the lot, containing ten acres, more or less, particularly described in a bond for title from Lemuel P. Grant to Augustus S. Rhodes, and known as the hospital lot of the city of Atlanta, be executed to the Southern Agricultural Association,[57] to have and to hold said lot so long as the association should continue to hold their annual meetings in the city of Atlanta, etc.[58]

The property conveyed lay along the south side of Fair Street, S.E., (Memorial Drive) between Connally and Hill streets, extending south to Clarke Street and included the present site of the old Fair Street, now Ed S. Cook School. None of these streets were in existence in 1850, and the road leading directly from the city to the fair grounds became known, quite appropriately as Fair Street. This section of town has long been closely built up, and it is hard to perceive now in passing that a hundred years ago a fine spring arose on this property and headed a clear flowing stream of ample capacity to supply the demands of the large number of assembled people and the livestock exhibited.[59]

The general concept of Atlanta's first fair may best be illustrated by a circular issued June 25, 1850, by David W. Lewis, Secretary of the Southern Central Agricultural Association, which set forth the regulations governing the event. It follows:

FAIR OF 1850

CIRCULAR

The Fifth Annual Fair of the Southern Central Agricultural Association, will be held during the week embracing Wednesday, the 14th day of August next, which is the day of the fifth annual meeting.

The Committee charged with the duty of prescribing such general rules as they may deem necessary to a proper management of the approaching Fair, have adopted the following:

GENERAL REGULATIONS

1st. The Fair Grounds and Buildings will be opened for visitors on Monday morning, and continue open until Friday evening. It is therefore desirable that all persons having articles for exhibition, shall be on the ground as early as Friday or Saturday, the 9th and 10th of August, when a Committee will be there ready to receive them.

2nd. The Association has an ample fund, and will, in all cases, become responsible for the safekeeping of all articles which may be placed in the hands of its officers and committees (the owner taking a check for the same) until the close of the Fair, which will be announced beforehand, in ample time to give them opportunity to recover their goods. . . .

3rd. Mark A. Cooper, Richard Peters, David W. Lewis, Wm. Ezzard, and James M. Calhoun, are appointed a committee, whose duty it shall be to see that all articles entering the fair grounds for exhibition, shall have first been entered in the Secretary's book or registry—then labeled with the owner's name and residence—and price, if for sale—giving to the owner a corresponding card—and then classified and arranged by departments, and in such order as to facilitate the labors of the several committees on premiums: and also to employ such police and door-keepers, and clerks, as shall be necessary for the protection of the grounds and buildings, and such clerks as they may need in the arrangement and labeling of articles.

4th. There will positively be required, in all cases, a minute and accurate written statement, illustrating and explaining every article sent for exhibition—the statement to be delivered to the Secretary. For instance,. if a Machine a statement of its powers and uses, cost, time of invention, and any other facts deemed valuable by the inventor or maker. If Horticultural or Agricultural Products, made of preparation of land and soil, manure and time of planting, mode of cultivation. If an Animal, the pedigree or stock, age, mode of raising, etc. If Needle-work or Painting, or any work of Art, the length of time bestowed on it, or the amount of labor; the age, if by children or very old persons; the value, uses, etc. . . . Visitors, patrons and members, all will take notice, that a premium will not be awarded to any article, whatever its merit, unless accompanied by illustrative and explanatory statements, made out in a legible hand, and in a style fit at once for the press.

5th. The delegations of the several county Societies are requested and enjoined to make out, upon consultation, a report of the present condition of Agriculture in their several counties . . . for publication in the transactions of the Society.

6th. It is desirable to make the Fair a Central Southern Agricultural and Manufacturers Exchange. We request individuals who have a surplus of choice articles, or who make them for sale—such as choice seeds, machines, stock, etc.—to carry them there for sale, and not alone for exhibition for a premium.

7th. Premiums.—It is impossible to name, in a notice like this, all the various articles to which premiums will be granted. . . . Lest, therefore, the announcement of premiums for particular articles might be construed by some into an exclusion of all articles unannounced, the Committee requests the people generally to observe, that it is intended to give the action of the Association the very widest scope, embracing everything that is ingenious or useful in business or art. All, then, with whatever they have for sale or exhibition, are invited to come. The only regulation further necessary on this point, perhaps is, that, on all articles of the highest merit in the department of Stock, Mechanics, Agricultural Implements, and valuable improvements or inventions, in any of the departments, a premium of a cup worth $10 will be given; on the second best, a cup worth $5; on the third best, $2.50; on the fourth an honor. And on all articles of the highest merit in the remaining departments a cup worth $5 will be given; on the second best $2.50; on the third an honor; on the fourth, 2d honor. On minor and miscellaneous articles premiums from one to three dollars. . . .

8th. A hall will be prepared and assigned particularly to the Ladies, for their garden products, fruits, flowers, paintings, needle-work, etc. They are cordially invited to attend. Their assistance, in many departments of the Fair, is absolutely necessary to a proper management.

9th. The facilities of getting to this central point [Atlanta] induce us to invite, and to expect the presence and contributions of many of our fellow citizens of Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee and Florida. We hope they will unite with us in making this institution indeed, what it is in name, a Southern Central Agricultural Association.

10th. . . . Articles for exhibition must be received and arranged on Friday and Saturday the 9th and 10th of August, so that when the President shall appoint his Committees Monday morning, the committee of reception may have their lists of articles, and the several committees proceed at once to the examination of articles, and thereby have ample time to make their reports to the annual meeting on Wednesday. Thursday will be devoted to sales—Friday to general re-delivery of articles. The exhibition continuing the whole time.

11th. Any alterations of or additions to the foregoing rules, will be published at Atlanta, early Monday morning of the Fair week.

12th. The annual oration will be made on Wednesday, the day of the Anniversary meeting, immediately preceding the reports of committees, by Col. John Billups of Athens, Georgia.

13th. The Committee have the prospect of making arrangements with the Macon, State and Georgia Rail Roads, to run accommodation cars early every morning and late in the afternoon, to Griffin, Marrietta, Stone Mountain and Decatur, to give visitors the opportunity of the accommodations of the good Hotels at those places, while in attendance upon the Fair.

14th. The citizens of Atlanta have provided comfortable quarters for Committees and officers, and others engaged in the laborious business of the Fair.

15th. The Secretary is directed to publish these regulations in the *Cultivator*, and to procure, as far as practicable, their publication in the weekly papers of this and the adjoining States.

By order of the Committee of Arrangements.

David W. Lewis,
Sec'y. Southern Central Agricultural
Association.

Sparta, 25th June, 1850.[60]

Thus efficiently organized, the fair met the expectations of its promoters and focused much favorable attention upon Atlanta.

Quite a number of Atlanta and De Kalb County people won premiums, and as indicative of their offerings, the following short list is interesting:

Red Heifer "Jenny Lind", owned by R. Peters, 16 months old	$5.00
Red Bull Calf "De Kalb", 6½ months old, was of a native cow by Devon bull "Boston", the property of R. Peters	$3.00
From the Sweet Water Factory[61] Campbell County, Ga., 6 bunches Thread, Nos. 6, 8, 10, 16, 28, 36, and 2 skeins Sewing Thread. This effort at fine Thread deserves a premium Cup	$5.00
To Gen. Ezzard, of De Kalb, we award a premium of $2, for the second best specimen of White Flint Corn.	
To Mr. R. Peters, of Atlanta, we award a premium of $2, for a superior article of Imperial Oats.	
Dr. Joseph Baker, of Atlanta, has shown a specimen of Upland Rice, 12 days growth, wonderful height, valuable for mowing, etc. We award him a premium of $1.	
A specimen of Apple Brandy, pronounced by competent judges to be very superior, was made by John Evans, of De Kalb County. Known as a very enterprising grower of fine fruits.	
Specimens of Native Walnut Furniture—a Bedstead and Dressing Bureau,—made by J. Morgan, of Decatur, which in style and finish would be creditable to the best ware-house of the city of New York. We award him a premium of $10.	
By Miss Guthrie, of Atlanta. Two Monochromatic Drawings. Landscape, Domestic animals, etc.—Well executed	Honor
By Mrs. V. Foster, of Atlanta, Landscape, Horses, Domestic animals, etc.—executed in India Ink. An elaborate and beautiful picture. Premium $3. Also, two pieces of Flowers and Fruits.	

Mr. James L. Mayson presented one cultivator and scraper combined, patented by Mr. Aiken, which the committee considered a very useful and economical implement in the culture of cotton, for which we award a cup, or $5.
Counterpane, by Mrs. E. Gordon, of Atlanta .... Honor
Patch quilt, by Miss J. J. Peoples, of Atlanta .... $2.
Rag hearth rug, by Mrs. Mary Daniel, of Atlanta .... $1.
To Miss Sarah Jane Corry, of Atlanta, for a beautiful specimen of raised work picture, representing a boy and his dog, silver medal.[62]

The late Washington J. Houston, writing in 1902, and commenting upon the fairs sponsored by the Southern Central Agricultural Society, said:

"After disclaiming any intention to reflect on the methods of conducting fairs of the present day, I will add that the exhibits of the forties and fifties were solely conducted for the elevation of mankind and the development of our mechanical, agricultural and educational interests and did not embrace many features of the present that are prominently displayed on the boards as leading attractions. Such things as pool rooms, midways, beer gardens and gambling devices were unknown on the grounds."[63]

The last fair sponsored by the Southern Central Agricultural Society was that of 1851, held in Macon.[64]

Atlanta from its earliest days has attracted men of the highest rank with the force of a magnet. Even when a village people seemed to sense its coming greatness. Such a man was Dr. Crawford W. Long (1815-1878), the first person to successfully make use of anesthesia in a surgical operation. For several years prior to 1850, Dr. Long had lived in Jefferson, Georgia, where he practiced medicine and where he made his immortal discovery. In 1850, desiring a larger location for his growing practice, Dr. Long, with his family, then consisting of a wife and two young daughters, moved to Atlanta, a distance of some 80 miles from Jefferson.[65]

Shortly after his arrival, Dr. Long, with rare judgment, chose City Lot 84 of Land Lot 78 and purchased it from Reuben Cone for $350. This lot fronted 100 feet on the northwest side of the present Broad Street at its junction with Peachtree Street, and ran back along the southwest side of Luckie Street to Forsyth, then called Wadley Street. The lot was 200 feet in depth and contained in all, one-half city acre.[66]

Dr. Long improved his newly acquired property with a two-story brick residence wherein was also situated his office. After about a year's residence in Atlanta he decided that it was not an ideal community, culturally, in which to rear and educate his children. Consequently he moved to Athens, and Atlanta lost a distinguished citizen.

Between the time of his removal and 1855 Dr. Long must have rented his Atlanta property. The tenant may have been Clark Howell, builder of Howell's Mill on Peachtree Creek, to whom it was conveyed from Long by deed dated October 23 and recorded October 30, 1855. The consideration was $2800, indicating that substantial improvements had been placed on the premises.[67]

Howell conveyed a one-half interest in the property to Daniel Hook (his father-in-law) in 1859 and in 1863 Howell and Hook conveyed the land to Edward R. Sasseen, who conducted a boarding house thereon for several years.[68]

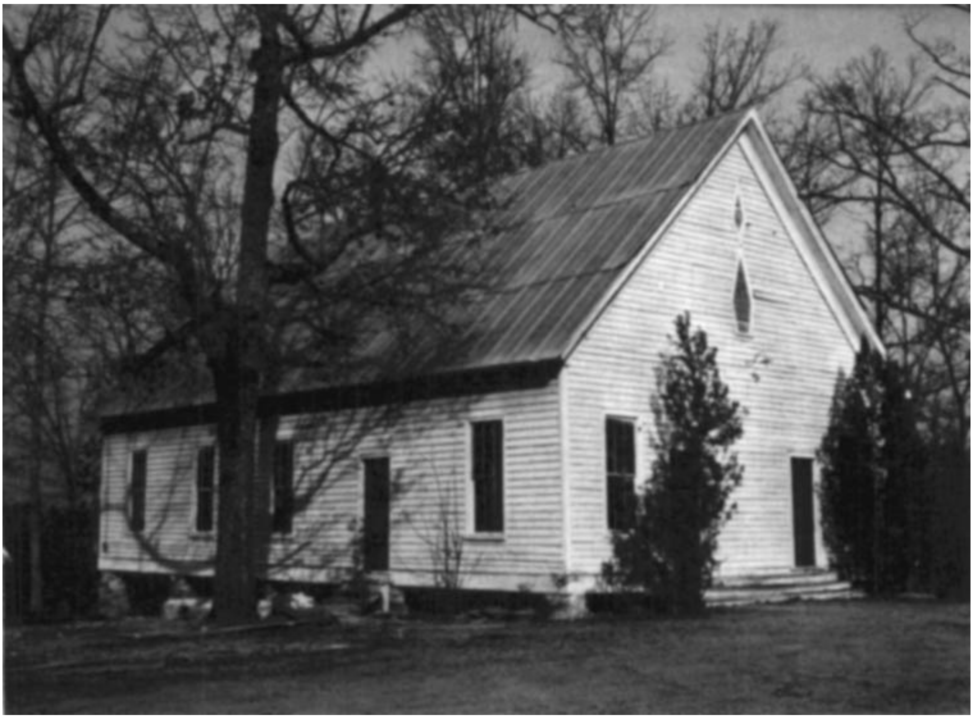
On March 13, 1869, Sasseen conveyed to Purmedus Reynolds[69] of Newton County a part of the City Lot located on the corner of Broad and Luckie streets fronting 50 feet on Broad Street at its junction with Peachtree and running back of uniform width along Luckie Street 105 feet to an alley. "The brick house now occupied by B. W. York is on said property." Sasseen further grants the right to use the well and out buildings that are on Sasseen's adjoining lot for five years. York, the tenant, was the son-in-law of Sasseen, and the brick house was in all probability the same house that Dr. Long had built nearly 20 years earlier. Reynolds lived in Covington and in 1872 sold the property to Mrs. Mary L. Boyd, wife of Captain Isaac S. Boyd. The Boyds owned the property for 20 years, and in 1892 sold it to Walker P. Inman. In 1920 Sig Samuels built the Metropolitan Theater under a lease from Mrs. May Inman Gray,[70] and in 1930 the store and office building known as the Volunteer Building was erected. The property was later acquired by the Volunteer State Life Insurance Company of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and is now owned by the Ben J. Massell interests. Today, as a hundred years ago, it remains one of the best locations in the city.[71]

The title to the Piedmont Hotel property across the street from the former Crawford Long homesite reveals an interesting study in Atlanta property values. On February 1, 1850, Reuben Cone and Ammi Williams sold one-half acre, extending from Peachtree to Forsyth streets, along Luckie Street, to Dr. Henry G. Collier for $300. Dr. Collier died the same day and Merrill Collier bought the same tract from his son's estate on May 15, 1854, for $2260; and on the same day sold it to William Ezzard for $2380. On December 13, 1854, Ezzard bought the remainder of the block from Ammi Williams for $1600. Ezzard sold 70 x 137 feet, on the corner of Luckie and Forsyth streets, for $4908 to Mrs. James W. Loyd in 1871 and 1875. During the period from June, 1866, to January, 1880, he sold the balance of the block to various parties, including his home to Dr. James F. Alexander, for a total consideration of $16,896. Thus Ezzard paid $3980 for the block where the hotel now stands, and sold it for $21,804. The hotel site was bought under separate parcels on August 3, 1901, from Hoke Smith, George W. Parrott and W. S. Everett by the Piedmont Hotel Company at a total price of $125,000. As long ago as 1920 the property was assessed for taxes at $977,500.[72]

The late Dr. Henry C. Hornady (1822-1893), pastor of the First Baptist Church of Atlanta from 1861 to 1867, first visited Atlanta in 1850 and had the foresight to leave us an interesting account of his impressions of the city and of the rigors of railway travel on both the Macon and Western and Western and Atlantic railroads. It follows:

"The writer first saw Atlanta in 1850, being then on his way to the Georgia State Baptist Convention which met that year in the beautiful, little town of Marietta. When he reached the city he and three other ministers desired to have a room large enough to accommodate all four, and when the train stopped the writer hurried over to the Atlanta Hotel, then kept by Dr. Joseph Thompson. On making inquiry, respecting the room, the Doctor showed him a large one on the first floor, which was entirely satisfactory, and he at once accepted it.

"While standing and conversing with 'mine host,' a gentleman came up and said, 'Well, sir, I will take that room,' referring to the one which the writer had just engaged. Quick as a flash the Doctor replied, 'No, sir, that room is taken by better men.' I did not feel much flattered by this back-handed compliment, when I learned that the gentleman referred to was some sort of a showman, who had been negotiating for the room, but had gone away to see if he could do better, and had returned without success. However, the preachers occupied the room, and no man knew better how to accommodate himself to his guests than did that prince of genial men, Dr. Joseph Thompson.



(Courtesy J. Walter Mason. Photo by Andrew Sparks, Dec. 31, 1949)

A fine example of an ante-bellum rural church in the Atlanta area. Enon Baptist Church, on Stonewall-Tell Road, 14 miles southwest of Atlanta in old Campbell, now Fulton County. Organized 1836 or 1837. Above building erected circa 1850, replacing log structure. The tin roof and electric light were later additions.

"The Atlanta Hotel stood then on a part of the ground now covered by the Kimball House, and was decidedly the best building in town. The next most imposing structure was Col. Peters' Merchant Mill, located alongside the Georgia railroad track, and occupied during the war as a pistol factory. It seems almost needless to say that Atlanta was then a struggling village of about 2000 inhabitants, scattered over what was then a series of chinquepin ridges, without form or order.

"When we boarded the train next morning for Marietta, a bevy of newsboys came aboard to sell papers, magazines, and novels, such as 'Major Jones' Courtship,' 'The Chronicles of Pineville,' 'Major Jones' Travels,' and similar publications. As these boys were very persistent in thrusting their merchandise upon the travelers, the writer said to a bright little lad, 'Why do you not sell good books instead of such trashy stuff as that you have in your basket?' With an indiscribable expression of countenance, he replied, 'Ha! travelers on this road don't want good books.' Just then a young man behind me spoke up and said, 'Mister, if it is good books you want, I have them,' drawing a well filled basket from beneath his seat, and displaying a number of works published by the American Tract Society, such as 'Baxter's Call to the Unconverted,' 'Baxter's Saints' Everlasting Rest,' and the like.

"The little boy at once became interested, as the passengers began to examine the contents of the baskets, for there were four young men engaged in the business; and as purchase after purchase was made of the 'good books,' I could but hope that the little vendor of trashy literature might take the hint, and provide himself with some of those same good books for future traffic. I found the four young colporteurs, for such they proved to be, were students of Oglethorpe College who were going to the mountains of North Georgia to spend their summer vacation in the work of colportage.

"The railroads then running into Atlanta were laid with flat bars of iron, upon long pieces of timber, called stringers, and were by no means considered safe. Sometimes the end of a bar would break loose from its fastenings, and rise up a foot or more above the stringer, and such disjointings were called 'snake heads,' from supposed resemblance to these reptiles. When the train would approach one of these 'snake heads,' the wheels would run under, and rip it up from its further fastenings, until it would pierce the bottom of some car, greatly endangering the lives of the passengers. On the very trip now under consideration, Rev. Jesse H. Campbell narrowly escaped by having just left his seat, when a 'snake head' was thrust through it, doing it some damage and overturning the car.

"This occurred on the Macon and Western road somewhere between Macon and Forsyth, but the train was making such poor speed that a good trotter would have distanced it. Not much harm was done, only some of the passengers were well shaken up, and others frightened nearly out of their sanity by the shock. This was the writer's trial trip on rail, and although thirty years have passed since then, he well remembers his feelings and impressions as he was whirled along at what he then thought a reckless rate of speed, and he inwardly blamed the managers for sacrificing the safety of the passengers for a foolish desire for rapid going, covering from ten to twelve miles an hour. He would look out and see the trees dancing the Fisher's Hornpipe, or the Highland Fling, and then think, suppose this thing were to jump the track. Whew! would there not be destruction, and then he would shut his eyes, and abandon himself to the inevitable.

"When we boarded the train at Marietta, on our return trip, the writer's nerves were not in first rate condition, he being somewhat dyspeptic, from too free indulgence in Convention fare, and he could not avoid a cold shiver, when told that it was down grade to the Chattahoochee river, and when the engineer said he was behind time fifteen minutes, and he was bound to run into Atlanta on time, or run the thing off its wheels. I found myself clutching tightly the back of the seat in front, and preparing, as a prudent man should do, if there should come a sudden shock and crash which would tear things to splinters; nor was I reassured when holding my watch in full view I found that we were rushing along at the rate of fifteen miles an hour, and that the car was swaying from side to side like a ship in a billowy sea. Every nerve was wrought up to its utmost tension, and when we ran into the car-shed at Atlanta, and I found myself still together I breathed a sigh of relief, and immediately thanked God for escape from such dreadful peril.

"My next visit to Atlanta was in 1853, and then I found that the city had grown rapidly, that the improvements were of a more substantial kind, and that there was a brisk business air about the whole place. Everybody seemed to be in a hurry, and a witty lawyer explained it by saying that the people had already eaten their breakfast, but were not quite sure of their dinner.

H. C. H."[73]

NOTES—CHAPTER 28

[1] Raymond Wallace Stanley, "The Railroad Pattern of Atlanta", A Dissertation for M.A. Degree, University of Chicago, 1947, p. 100, *passim*. Hereafter cited as Stanley, "Railroad Pattern of Atlanta". Mimeograph copy, Atlanta Historical Society.

[2] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 120.

[3] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850.

[4] "Garrett's Necrology".

[5] *A.H.B., XXVII,* 16-82. From a photostatic copy of the original, presented to the Society by Franklin M. Garrett.

[6] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850, Town of Decatur. Names listed in order enumerated by Census taker.

[7] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[8] "Garrett's Necrology".

[9] Reed, *Atlanta,* 65; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 30.

[10] An early attempt at city planning.

[11] The first of record.

[12] Probably the present Forrest Avenue. This street was called Oslin prior to the War Between the States. Reuben E. Oslin owned land along its present course.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 65; Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 31-35.

[14] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1850, Book B.

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] "Garrett's Necrology".

[17] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1850, Book B.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 673-675; "Garrett's Necrology".

[20] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1850.

[21] *Ibid.,* 527-53.

[22] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.,* 34.

[23] Quoted in "Georgia's First Tunnel", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* May 15, 1928. *Cf.* Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 39-42.

[24] For whom the town of Graysville is named.

[25] "Georgia's First Tunnel", *loc. cit.*

[26] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 39-42.

[27] *Ibid.,* 42-43.

[28] *Ibid.,* 43.

[29] *Ibid.,* 43-44.

[30] "Recollections of Mrs. Patrick Cannon, Who Came to Atlanta in 1843, and Has Lived in the Same House on Loyd Street Ever Since", *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 30, 1888.

[31] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 28.

[32] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 96.

[33] *Ibid.,* 98.

[34] Records, Oakland Cemetery.

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] First listed as such in *City Directory* of 1877. Previous issues used the designation, "City Cemetery".

[37] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1851", *A.H.B.,* XI, 31.

[38] Records, Oakland Cemetery.

[39] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 11, 1949, p. 8-B.

[40] "Garrett's Necrology".

[41] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 75.

[42] Records, Oakland Cemetery.

[43] "Recollections of Mrs. Cannon," *loc. cit.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 50; "Diary of a Methodist Itinerant", Rev. David Thurman, Atlanta, 1850-1851. Edited by Louise Norris, a great- granddaughter, and published in *Chattanooga Sunday Times,* Oct. 13, 1935; Harry Phillips, *History of the Atlanta Fire Department* (Atlanta, 1948), 48-49. Hereafter cited as Phillips, *History, Fire Dept., Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 26, 1884.

[44] John M. Harrison, "The Voluneer Firemen of Atlanta", *A.H.B.*, XXVI (Oct., 1941), 241.

[45] Phillips, *History Fire Dept.*, 48.

[46] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.*, 32.

[47] Phillips, *History Fire Dept.*, 48.

[48] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.*, 34.

[49] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen", *loc. cit.*, 241; Reed, *Atlanta,* 281; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 327; "Garrett's Necrology".

[50] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen", *loc. cit.*, 242.

[51] Reed, *Atlanta,* 281. With name elaboration and corrections by the present writer.

[52] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1854", *A.H.B.*, XIII, 157.

[53] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 101.

[54] 16 *Ga. Reports,* 38; 21 *Ga. Reports,* 345.

[55] *Transactions S.C.A.S.*, 333, *passim.*

[56] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 230.

[57] To which the S.C.A.S., had been changed.

[58] Reed, *Atlanta,* 65.

[59] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 231. The tract of land described is designated in *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate P, as the "Fair Ground Plat."

[60] *Transactions S.C.A.S.*, 333-337.

[61] Ruins of the old factory may still be seen near the mouth of Sweetwater Creek in what is now Douglas County.

[62] *Transactions S.C.A.S.*, 337-361.

[63] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 232.

[64] *Transactions S.C.A.S.*, vii.

[65] James Walter Mason, "Dr. Crawford W. Long in Atlanta", *A.H.B.*, XXXV (Oct., 1951), 64-67; Frank Kells Boland, M.D., *The First Anesthetic, The Story of Crawford Long* (Athens, Ga., 1950), 115; U. S. Census, Atlanta, De Kalb County, 1850.

[66] Mason, "Dr. Crawford W. Long in Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[67] *Ibid.;* Boland, *The First Anesthetic,* 115.

[68] Mason, "Dr. Crawford W. Long in Atlanta", *loc. cit.; City Directory,* 1867.

[69] Father-in-law of Robert F. Maddox, Sr., (1829-1899).

[70] Widow of James R. Gray, editor of *Atlanta Journal,* and daughter of Walker P. Inman.

[71] Mason, "Dr. Crawford W. Long in Atlanta", *loc. cit.*

[72] Scott, *Romance, Atlanta Realty;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[73] *The Christian Index,* Oct. 26, 1882.

CHAPTER 29

1851

BY 1851 law and order in Atlanta had come perilously close to extinction. The authority of the municipal government was being openly flouted by hundreds of "toughs" from Murrel's Row and the Snake Nation, none of whom had visible means of support.[1]

The De Kalb County grand juries for both the first and second weeks of the March, 1851 term of the Superior Court took cognizance of the matter. The first jury reported:

". . . By our Committees we have examined the new Jail and find it completely ready for the reception of prisoners. 'Tis a safe, substantial building, kept in good order by the Jailor, Mr. Robert Jones. The cement floor in the upper story we find to be a failure and would recommend a substitute to be made for it either by plank floor or otherwise. We are unable to find by reference to the records of Court the actual cost of the new Jail, or the receipts and disbursements of the Jail fund. We have been informed that the old Jail building has been sold for twenty five dollars, but find no record of it. We recommend that said proceeds be paid over to the County Treasurer. . . .

". . . We find by our Committee the sum of $79.57 for Retail License, which amount has been paid over to the Treasurer. Considerable complaint has been made in regard to selling liquors without license. We hope the grand jury of next week will examine and enquire into this matter particularly. Also ferret out if possible all persons traficking (*sic*) with slaves in an unlawful manner. . . ."

CHAPMAN POWELL, Foreman.[2]

The following grand jury bore down heavily on crime in Atlanta.

". . . In view of the vast accumulated business on our criminal docket originating in the City of Atlanta, and the difficulty of reaching cases and meating (*sic*) out justice to offenders against law, we would present the propriety of instructing our Legislators at the next session to obtain for the City of Atlanta jurisdiction over her own criminals by the establishment of a court in the aforesaid city with power to try and punish all offences not embracing capital punishment or confinement in the penitentiary. We would present as a grievance the prevalence of the practice, among our youth, assembling at tippling and other houses to play at the game of Ken, or to be and becoming thereby only initiated into the corrupting vice of gambling, and beg our Legislature would prohibit the same under penalty against those who encourage it in their houses. . . .

"We would present as a grievance the administration of Wyllys Buell, Esq., as magistrate in the City of Atlanta in defeating the ends of justice by leniency in offenses of aggravated carictur (*sic*), insufficient bonds as to amount, and allowing irresponsible securities on such bonds. . . . We would desire to express our commendation of the Marshals of the City of Atlanta for the vigilence they have exhibited in the discharge of their duties. . . .

"We present the condition of the road through this county toward Fayetteville as requiring repair; also the road from Atlanta toward Green's Ferry by White Hall; also the road from Atlanta by White Hall to Rough & Ready;

also the road in Elijah Donehoo's or Casey District, in which we are informed there are no commissioners. We also present the bridge on Snapfinger Creek near the widow Autry's mills as impassible without danger."

HENRY B. LATIMER, Foreman.[3]

Meanwhile the bitterest municipal election on record had been held in Atlanta. Ever since the better element of the town had secured a charter in 1847, this element, now called the "Moral Party", had been constantly at odds with the "Free and Rowdy Party". It had been nip and tuck for ascendency. The *Intelligencer* thundered against the "Rowdy Party" and called for a clean sweep. Accordingly early in 1851 a mass meeting of the better citizens nominated Jonathan Norcross for mayor, while the rowdy element resorted to an old political strategem by naming as their candidate a better man than themselves, Leonard C. Simpson, attorney and a former councilman.[4]

The resulting campaign was characterized by vituperation and was punctuated by numerous fist fights, There were over forty drinking saloons in town, to say nothing of the groceries dealing in ardent spirits, and they all did a landoffice business as the political war raged. While Simpson and his backers were turning their money loose in the bar-rooms, Norcross and his friends, to emphasize the moral plane on which they were fighting, treated liberally to apples and confectionery. The Moral Party held several big rallies at which their leaders denounced the corruption and disorder existing in Atlanta, and called upon the better element to rescue the city from rowdyism and vice. The Rowdy Party held no mass meetings, but an outlet was not wanting for their enthusiasm. Happily the election passed off without any fatalities, and resulted in the election of Jonathan Norcross as mayor of Atlanta. This was fortunate for the town, then and thereafter.[5]

Though Norcross was elected, that one event did not secure immediate peace. The clergyman's son from Maine was to have his moral courage tested to the hilt. More than one member of the rowdy element had boasted openly that "Uncle Jonathan" would find the town too hot to hold him if he tried to institute his proposed reforms or if in fact he assumed the office of mayor. Such threats merely served to steel the new chief executive's nerves.

The city government, lacking a city hall, then had its headquarters in a room on the second floor of McDaniel, Mitchell and Hulsey's brick building at the northeast corner of Whitehall and Hunter streets. And, there being no municipal recorder at that time, it devolved upon the mayor to officiate at police court.[6]

After a couple of days in office, Mayor Norcross was called upon to try a tough who had been arrested for an affray upon the street. It proved to be a test case and the room was crowded with spectators, not all of whom were sympathetic with the cause of law and order. The accused was found guilty and fined, and as the mayor was about to pass to the next case, the bully arose from his chair and drew a wicked looking bowie knife. Flourishing the weapon he loudly defied the authorities and declared that he proposed to start a slaughter pen in the courtroom.

As he started to cut and slash with the knife the crowd fell back, many stumbling over each other in their efforts to get down the stairway. It was evident that the desperado was trying to get at the mayor, who having no better weapon, sprang from his splint-bottom chair and held it above his head to wait the attack. Fortunately there were other men of courage present, among whom were ex-De Kalb County Sheriff Allen E. Johnson,[7] City Marshal William McConnell, his deputy, Benjamin N. Williford and Cicero H. Strong, a private citizen. They combined their efforts to cope with the desperate man. Fortunately Johnson always carried a stout hickory cane and in this emergency it stood him in good stead. He aimed a blow at the arm that held the knife. It was well aimed and the knife clattered to the floor. Johnson and Strong then seized the man and hustled him downstairs into the street. By this time it was dark, and in the jostling crowd the prisoner managed to escape. He was never seen in Atlanta again.[8]

The affray in council chamber was merely a warm-up for the final showdown between the two factions. The next day excitement was at fever pitch. Business was practically suspended, and men of both camps gathered in groups and talked threateningly. It was feared that a bloody riot was imminent. Sentiment was strong for organizing a vigilance committee, as the citizens of San Francisco had done the same year in an effort to cope with lawlessness.

The next night the Rowdy Party took the initiative by sending a delegation to Decatur for the purpose of spiriting away to Atlanta a small cannon, a relic of the War of 1812, which the townsfolk were wont to fire on the Fourth of July and other occasions of public jubilation. The foray was successful and the following evening the cannon was planted in the street in front of Jonathan Norcross' store, with the muzzle trained upon the building. The cannon was fired two or three times, but being loaded only with sand and gravel, the only damage was to render Norcross' porch untidy. However the outlaws left a written note to the effect that the mayor must resign or his store would be blown up.[9]

Thus tangibly threatened, Mayor Norcross called a secret meeting of council, which resulted in the issuance of a proclamation calling upon all law-abiding citizens to organize into a volunteer police force. The response was immediate. The Rowdy Party also perfected a warlike organization which was housed in a building at the northeast corner of Decatur and Ivy streets.[10]

During this time the old cannon had been left in the middle of the street pointing toward the Norcross store, but the place was now heavily guarded and none of the rowdies had mustered the courage to carry out their threat. Soon after, at midnight a large squad of volunteer police, under the leadership of Alexander Weldon Mitchell, moved upon the headquarters of the enemy on Decatur Street. In spite of all their bluster, the Rowdy Party, before this courageous show of force, dissolved like frost in the sunshine.

Not a man stood his ground. Many, including several ringleaders, were arrested and locked up in the calaboose. Some were confined in a private building under guard, the calaboose being inadequate for prisoners in wholesale lots.[11]

The cases against the captured toughs were set for the next day, and the whole town turned out for the occasion. One after another the offenders were convicted and fined to the limit allowed by the charter. In default of fines, most were remanded to jail. This broke the backbone of the "rebellion", though for several weeks unusual vigilance and energy was required to preserve order, and the whole volunteer police force was not disbanded for some time. During the remainder of his administration Mayor Norcross was not molested, but he received several anonymous threats through the mail and the feeling against him in Murrel's Row was dangerously vindictive.[12]

One more item remained for the acomplishment of the forces of law and order. Many of the worst characters of Murrel's Row retired to the Snake Nation to continue their depraved practices without fear, so they thought, of molestation. Finally, with a determination to eradicate this den of iniquity, a large body of disguised Atlantans raided the Snake Nation by night. The men found in the filthy huts were whipped by the "White Caps" and warned to leave town, while the abandoned creatures of the other sex were hauled nearly to Decatur, where they were allowed to go with a similar warning. The shanties of both Snake Nation and Slabtown were destroyed by fire so completely that neither rose again.[13]

Several years later the high ground along Peters Street, once incorporated in the Snake Nation, at the point where Fair Street crosses, became a respectable residential section known as Castleberry Hill. Still later it reverted to business, as it is today.

The council serving under Mayor Norcross was composed of Julius A. Hayden, John T. Humphries, Daniel McSheffrey, William W. Roark, John Jones and Paschal House, while officers elected January 24, 1851, to serve with them were William McConnell, marshal; Benjamin N. Williford, deputy marshal; Adam Jones, clerk and tax receiver and collector, and Oswald Houston, treasurer.[14]

There was much to engage this group aside from the difficulties relative to law and order just described. Fire protection was a problem. On February 14th, an ordinance was adopted by council requiring each building within the city limits, kitchens and other small houses excepted, to be furnished with a ladder, and each store and dwelling to have two fire buckets. A month later, on March 28th, Simon Frankford, a merchant, came before council to urge upon it the necessity of digging wells to meet the demands for water in case of fire.[15]

The committee on wells was therefore authorized to have a well dug eight feet square, at the corner of Whitehall and Mitchell Streets, to contain 15 feet of water, one of the same size and capacity at the Norcross corner, and one at the corner of Whitehall and Hunter streets of like size; all to be covered with two-inch plank. Council also authorized a reservoir to be dug on Alabama Street, below Holland's house,[16] 15 feet deep and 15 feet square. This ordinance was repealed on April 11, at which time it was ordered by council that the wells be dug five feet in diameter; to contain 10 feet of water, and to be covered with wood. It was also ordered that wooden cisterns be built in connection with each well, not more than three feet away, and to contain 10 feet of water.[17]

Some of the other matters with which city council was concerned during the rather critical year of 1851 are shown by the Minutes:

Jan. 27, 1851.	Resolution passed requiring the Council bell to be rung at nine o'clock each night.
Feb. 7.	An order was granted J. S. Oliver for grubbing Peachtree Street to the amount of $12.
Feb. 7.	Move to appoint a street commissioner carried. Commissioner to make out specifications for all work done on streets, to make reports of work required to be done, the cost of each section of street or streets to be improved, and to report all contracts whether they are faithfully executed, and to give such other information to the Mayor and Council as may be necessary and proper.

	Moved that all work on streets be let out on contract at the regular meeting of the Council. Carried. Marshal made Street Commissioner at a salary of $150 a year, and allowed to keep a horse.
Mar. 19.	Murphey & Collier[18] employed as Counsel for Council, for 1851, salary not more than $424.
Apr. 11.	Allen E. Johnson and William G. Forsyth commended to Council by Mayor for helping police.
June 4.	Council took under consideration the building of a city hall. Dr. Thompson was asked about a lot.[19]
July 29.	Slave insurrection suspected. Council to meet at 8 the next morning to investigate those arrested.
Aug. 9.	Resolved that one watchman be employed at $15 per month, and that the Marshal and Deputy sit up alternately each night. Resolved, that the City Council issue city bonds to the amount of $5000, and the amount be placed to building city hall, market and engine house.[20]
Aug. 19.	The building committee was ordered to buy land between U. L. Wright and James Lynch for $1500. NOTE: This property comprising about one acre extended from but did not include the Lynch corner, northwest intersection Whitehall and Alabama streets, to the U. L. Wright property on the west side of Broad Street, then non-existent, and ran from the railroad right-of-way to Alabama Street. Apparently it was the original intention of Council to erect upon this land a market house, fire engine house and city hall. The first two buildings were placed on this land, but the city hall was finally built on the present State Capitol site.[21] The lot is referred to as the "city hall lot" in Council Minutes of March, 1852.
Nov. 3.	Building committee to make temporary shelter for first fire engine, soon to arrive.
Nov. 7.	Campbell Minstrals received license, $5 per night.[22]

During 1851 Atlanta's stature as a railroad center loomed larger as the Atlanta and La Grange went into partial operation. As previously noted (Chapter 25), L. P. Grant, chief engineer of the line had commenced location surveys near Atlanta in March, 1849 and the line to Newnan was placed under contract. The grading had been undertaken mostly by subscribers to the capital stock, which arrangement proved unsatisfactory. Some of the contractors abandoned their contracts, and by the time of the annual meeting of 1850, on May 25, at Newnan, only one-third of the masonry and grading had been completed. The work was re-let to more experienced contractors, and, while track laying was expected to begin in July of that year and be completed to the Coweta County line by Christmas, wet weather delayed the work.[23]

At any rate the road was completed and opened for passenger trains to Palmetto on March 17, 1851, and to Newnan on September 9th. Freight service to Newnan was begun three days later. The line from Newnan to West Point had been placed under contract in September, 1850, by authority of a charter amendment secured in December, 1849. At this time the Montgomery and West Point Railroad[24] was under construction between Opelika and West

Point, which extension was completed in April, 1851. The Atlanta and La Grange Railroad was opened to traffic to Grantville on June 1, 1852; to La Grange in February, 1853, and to West Point May 15, 1854.[25]

A change in the by-laws, on May 25, 1853, provided for the holding of future annual meetings in Atlanta, instead of in Newnan as formerly. An Act to amend the charter of the Atlanta and La Grange Railroad, assented to by the Governor December 22, 1857, changed the name of the road to the Atlanta and West Point Railroad Company.[26]

The first locomotive to operate over the Atlanta and La Grange Railroad was the "E. Y. Hill", named for the well-known superior court judge who resided at La Grange. Its engineer was Oliver Park.[27]

While the future Atlanta and West Point Railroad was being built, a new town took root at its eastern terminus[28] and junction with the Macon and Western. It was named, very appropriately, East Point, although strangers to Atlanta never cease to wonder why one is compelled to pass through West End in order to reach East Point. East Point became a United States Post Office on March 12, 1851, with William Spence as first Postmaster. His successors were Swinny A. Mangum, Abraham N. Clardy, Thomas M. Harris, and Samuel G. Pegg, until March 27, 1855, when the office was discontinued. It was reopened March 13, 1860, with Nicholas H. Bacon in charge.[29]

While the town of East Point was getting under way, two of the oldest roads in the county, north of Atlanta, were receiving attention. On November 3, 1851, the Inferior Court of De Kalb County appointed Robert H. Smith, Starling Goodwin and William Johnston reviewers:

"For the purpose of reviewing that part of the road known as Power's Ferry Road from where it crosses the old Peachtree Road at L. Arendall's to where it intersects with the Shallowford Road leading to William Johnston's Mill on Peachtree Creek about 4 miles from Decatur—also that part of the Public Road below Harris Goodwin's between the two last mentioned points by Lemuel Lunceford's"[30]

A hundred years ago the Power's Ferry Road, from Decatur to the ferry incorporated parts of the present Roxboro Road and most all of the present Wieuca Road. The residence of Laughlin Arendall was on or about the present northwest intersection of Peachtree and Wieuca roads.[31] The Harris Goodwin place, referred to in this order, is still standing. (See Chapter 9.)

During its year of greatest travail with outlawry some progress was made in Atlanta in the arts of civilization, chiefly religion, journalism and education.

The Catholic population of the town had grown steadily since 1845, and since 1846 had been visited monthly by Fathers Barry and Duggan, of Augusta, Birmingham, of Edgefield, South Carolina, Shanahan, of Macon, and J. F. O'Neill, Jr., of Savannah. Mass was said at the various residences of the congregation including those of Michael McCullough, Daniel McSheffry and Terence Doonan. In late 1850 or early 1851 a resident priest was sent to Atlanta and Father J. F. O'Neill, Jr., was favored with the appointment. It was he who built the original Church of the Immaculate Conception, in 1851, on its present site at the southeast corner of Central Avenue and Hunter Street. The original building, erected in 1850 or 1851 was a wooden structure, painted white, with a small porch, at either side of which were steps. This sanctuary had the effect of an arched alcove around which was painted, "Gloria in Excelsis Deo". Behind the altar hung a picture titled "The Immaculate Conception". The church was dedicated by Bishop Reynolds, of Charleston.[32]

The original Church of the Immaculate Conception escaped destruction during the War Between the States, and stood until 1869, when it was torn down to make way for the present structure. This building is the oldest church edifice in the City of Atlanta, and its site has been devoted exclusively to religious purposes for more than a century.

The leading journalistic venture to be promulgated in the city during 1851 was the Atlanta *Republican,* an anti-democratic and temperance newspaper launched by the brothers Reneau, Rev. Russell and Jesse. They were gentlemen of good character and fine culture, with French-derived optimism. Russell Reneau was one of the lingering Whigs of his day, but his larger distinction was his outstanding advocacy of prohibition, after the fashion of the recently enacted "Maine Law". He preached, orated and published pamphlets in favor of a like enactment in Georgia. One of his chief allies was the then ascending statesman, Benjamin Harvey Hill. The *Republican* was combined in 1855 with the *Discipline* as the Atlanta *Weekly Republican and Discipline,* which in March, 1857, was succeeded by the *National American.* The office of the Atlanta *Republican* was in the Parr's Building at the southwest corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets. Russell Reneau subsequently moved to Arkansas, where he died prior to 1885.[33]

The year 1851 was a record breaker for the establishment of schools in Atlanta, at least seven having opened their doors that year. Parents who could afford to pay tuition for their children, had a wide selection.

Professor W. M. Janes opened a school in the academy in January at the corner of Garnett and Forsyth streets. His courses and terms included orthography, reading and writing, $4 per term; arithmetic, grammar and geography, $6; Latin, Greek and mathematics, $8.[34]

Mrs. T. S. Ogilby opened early in the year at the northeast corner of Pryor and Hunter streets. Among her courses were waxwork, fruit and flowers, $10; music and use of the piano, $12.50; painting and embroidery, $5.[35]

During the summer a Miss Nevers, recently from McIntosh County opened a school for the instruction of both sexes, on Marietta Street, while Miss C. W. Dews began teaching females only. She held forth in the academy on Marietta Street, formerly occupied by Mr. Wingfield.[36]

In August, Rev. T. O. Adair, an older brother of George W. Adair, opened a literary school in his academy situated on the Humphries lot. All those who were entitled to a participation in the poor school fund were credited with four cents per day for the time they were in attendance at this school.[37]

Two schools were opened near Walton Spring during the year, one by Misses Bettison and Daniels and another known as the Atlanta Male Academy. Principal of the latter was Joel T. McGinty, one of Atlanta's best known early educators. The course of study embraced all the branches usually taught in the best academies in the country. It was further distinguished by a board of trustees, consisting of Stephen Terry, Clark Howell, John F. Mims, William P. Orme, John Collier, A. F. Luckie and George Ginty. While this school was incorporated by the Legislature on January 20, 1852, it did not survive that year.[38]

Atlanta, it appeared, was becoming over-schooled. There were not enough children of school age whose parents could afford tuition, to properly support all those bidding for patronage. The result was the extinction of some schools and the merging of others. What was needed was a free public school system.

The De Kalb grand jury for the first week of the September term delivered itself emphatically upon this subject:

". . . We have had under consideration the subject of Education of the Poor, and think it is worthy of more interest than is generally manifested. Our system we think is defective, and could be greatly remedied by compelling teachers, before they take charge of schools, to appear before trustees appointed for that purpose, and undergo an examination as to their competency to teach. We would therefore respectfully call the attention of the next Legislature to this subject in order that proper laws may be enacted that will correct this great public abuse.

"The youthful mind, from its tenderness and flexibility is too often made susceptible of incorrect impressions from an injudicious course of instruction, which can alone be remedied by compelling those who attempt to instruct, first to be qualified themselves. We fully concur in opinion with his Honor that the females as well as the males should be educated to feel this importance. We have but to refer to the character and prospects of the rising generation. We all know that children are ignorant and need instruction, and the mother, being the first instructress, how important is it that she should know the parts in which to lead the precious trust committed to her care. Then let the Mothers be educated; let them be enabled to instill into the minds of their offspring, correct notions and virtuous principles, and as a people and a nation, we will ever have a proper Safe Guard against foreign damages or internal disturbances. . . ."

SPENCER P. WRIGHT, Foreman.

Thomas D. Johnson
Robert E. Mangum
James M. Holly
Berryman D. Shumate
Meredith Brown
George K. Hamilton
William C. Parker
Ebenezer Tilley
Joseph Stewart
Jesse J. Jones
James Robinson

Benjamin F. Shumate
Samuel Fee
John N. Swift
Edwin Plaster
David D. Anderson
James Moore
William Crowell
William A. Powell
William Goldsberry
John K. Landers
Clark R. Waddail

By request of the Grand Jury ordered that the foregoing presentments be published in the Atlanta *Republican.*

EDWARD YOUNG HILL,
J. S. C. C. C.[39]

The months of April, November and December, 1851, marked the death of pioneer citizens, Reuben Cone, Willis Buell and Dr. Nathaniel G. Hilburn. Cone and Buell died of natural causes, but the grim reaper, in Hilburn's case, acting through the agency of the Doctor's brother-in-law, gave rise to one of Atlanta's most celebrated murder trials.

Judge Reuben Cone was born in Connecticut in 1788 and moved to De Kalb County in time to become one of the original commissioners of the town of Decatur in 1823. He married Lucinda Shumate, a daughter of Mason Shumate and subsequently served as a justice of the Inferior Court of De Kalb

County. Judge Cone moved to Atlanta in the middle 1840's, having previously acquired much of the land upon which the town was built. The Judge had great faith in the future of Atlanta and divided his land (Land Lot 78) into small lots which he sold at modest amounts on long terms, so as to induce persons to settle in the town. He donated the lots upon which the original First Baptist and First Presbyterian churches were built, and laid off Marietta Street, planting upon either side a row of trees, including a row in the center of the street. Judge Cone built his first home in Atlanta on the north side of Marietta Street between Fairlie and Cone streets. While engaged in building a new home across the street at the head of Cone Street, he died on April 10, 1851. This home was subsequently known as the "Austell mansion". In it was founded the Atlanta National Bank in 1865.[40]

It is a pity that Judge Cone did not live to see the city of his love grow to the proportions he predicted for her. Yet he helped to lay its foundations well. He is buried under a substantial monument in Oakland Cemetery. His widow subsequently married Judge William H. Underwood, a noted lawyer, who died a few years later. She survived until 1872, and is buried beside Judge Cone. Reuben and Lucinda Cone left one child, Harriet, wife of Julius A. Hayden, first president of the Atlanta Gas Light Company and pioneer Atlanta builder. Among their children were Mrs. A. M. Thrasher, Mrs. T. J. Phillips, Mrs. George W. Harrison, Mrs. Mary Hayden Whitner, Julius A. Hayden, Jr., and Reuben Cone Hayden.[41]

Squire Willis Buell, Atlanta's third mayor, justice of the peace, portrait painter, and bachelor was, like Judge Cone, a native of Connecticut and, having been born in 1790, was almost an exact contemporary. Nothing is known of his early life, for upon his death in November, 1851, he left no survivors. Thomas Kile secured letters of Administration upon Buell's modest estate in January, 1852. It can only be assumed, in the absence of any information or direct evidence that our third mayor is buried in an unmarked grave in Oakland Cemetery.[42]

When Elijah Bird murdered his brother-in-law Dr. Nathaniel G. Hilburn on December 1, 1851, with a fifty-cent pocket knife, in front of the latter's home at the northwest corner of Decatur and Ivy streets,[43] he put a number of forces into motion. They involved the De Kalb County Superior Court, the Supreme Court of Georgia, and the State Legislature at Milledgeville. The same forces reduced Elijah's father, John Bird, from the status of a prosperous planter to a state of penury.

Dr. Hilburn, a man of forty, had, several years before, married Martha, daughter of John and Martha Bird. During the late 1840's he settled in Atlanta and became one of the town's pioneer dentists. John Bird, had, in 1849 purchased City Lot No. 7 at Decatur and Ivy streets, and for natural love and affection, deeded it to his daughter, Martha H. A. Hilburn, wife of the Doctor, in 1851,[44] whereon the Hilburns had taken up residence.

Bad blood had existed for sometime between Hilburn and the Birds, particularly Elijah, then a grocer in Atlanta, and Mrs. John Bird, Elijah's mother and Hilburn's mother-in-law. The root of the ill feeling had its origin in either fancied or actual interference in Hilburn's business by the Birds. Unfortunately, while the ill feeling was at its height, the senior Birds, on Monday, December 1, 1851, drove to Atlanta from their South River plantation in a two-horse carriage, which they left standing in front of the piazza of Hilburn's house while John Bird went up in town to transact some business. This was around noon. The senior Mrs. Bird remained in the carriage.[45]

About 2 P. M. Hilburn emerged from the house in a bad humor and announced that he was going to cut the top off of the carriage. He thereupon took up an axe and gave the vehicle a lick on the side nearest the sidewalk. His mother-in-law remonstrated with him, and as he relinquished the axe to his daughters who threw it over the fence, Mrs. Bird picked up Hilburn's walking stick, lying nearby and struck him over the head. Hilburn was stunned and grabbed for his hat. At this juncture Elijah Bird, who had appeared upon the scene, walked around from the other side of the carriage, and reaching over his mother's shoulder, stabbed Hilburn in the right side of the neck with a double-blade buckhorn handled pocket knife. Hilburn expired in about five minutes, too soon for Dr. P. P. Noel D'Alvigny, who arrived in a matter of minutes to do anything for the wound. Bird walked away and was later arrested by William McConnell, marshal of Atlanta.

A true bill, charging murder was found against Bird by a grand jury of which Jonathan B. Wilson was foreman, at the April, 1852 term of the De Kalb Superior Court.[46]

The case came on for trial during the April, 1853 term of De Kalb Superior Court before Judge Edward Young Hill. Solicitor General M. M. Tidwell conducted the prosecution, while Bird was ably represented by William Ezzard, James M. Calhoun, Thomas A. Latham and Charles Murphey. Many of the best citizens of Atlanta testified, some for, and some against the defendant. Finally on April 14, 1853, the trial jury, of which Henry H. Bolton was foreman, brought in a verdict of "Guilty."[47]

Whereupon, Elijah Bird, sitting in court, listened to the following ominous sentence:

> "The defendant, Elijah Bird, having been convicted by a jury of the offence of murder, and he having been called on by the Court to show cause if any he had why the judgment of the law should not be pronounced in said case, and he having failed to show any cause, It is therefore considered, ordered, adjudged and sentenced by the Court, that he the said Elijah Bird be taken from the bar of this Court to the common Jail of said County of De Kalb and there kept in safe and close custody until Friday the tenth day of June next, and that he then be taken from said Jail by the Sheriff of said County or his deputy to a suitable gallows to be erected near and at a convenient place from the Court House in De Kalb County, Georgia, and then and there on said day between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon and two o'clock in the afternoon of said day to be hung (*sic*) by the neck to said gallows by the Sheriff of said County, or his deputy until he is *dead, dead, dead,* and may God have mercy on his soul.
>
> April 21st, 1853.
>
> M. M. Tidwell
> Sol. Gen."[48]

Old John Bird, father of the condemned man, and owner of several hundred of the best acres of South River bottom land in De Kalb County resolved to save his son, cost what it may.

The case was carried to the Supreme Court of Georgia, principally upon a technicality involving the impaneling of the trial jury. In an able opinion delivered by Associate Justice Eugenius A. Nisbet, the judgment of the lower court was affirmed[49] and Bird was re-sentenced by Judge David Irwin at the October, 1853 term of the De Kalb Superior Court.[50]

Nothing daunted, John Bird succeeded in getting a bill for a pardon introduced in the State Legislature, which began its 1853-54 session at Milledgeville in November, 1853. The *Times* and *Sentinel*, of Columbus, Georgia, in its issue of November 25, 1853, reported as follows:

"HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Milledgeville, Nov. 22.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The day was mainly consumed in discussing the bill for the pardon of Elijah Bird. The discussion was opened by Mr. [George K.] Smith of De Kalb, against the bill, in a lucid and impressive address, which commanded the attention of the House. He was replied to by Mr. McDougald, of Muscogee, at great length, in support of the bill. He was ingenious, at times eloquent, and always interesting. The House adjourned after he closed his argument. The case will probably consume the whole of tomorrow. Bird will, in all probability, be pardoned."

A month later the *Southern Recorder*, of Milledgeville, under date of December 20, 1853, announced the pardon in the following language:

"Pardon of Elijah Bird

A bill has passed the Legislature pardoning this individual, who was condemned to be hanged for murder. There being a tie, on its passage through the Senate, the President cast a vote in favor of a pardon. The bill is passed."

Elijah Bird had escaped the gallows by a hair, but his father, heavily involved in debt owing to the expenses of litigation was soon forced to sell his fine plantation in order to pay his creditors. The sin of the son was visited upon the father.

The pardon of Elijah Bird by no means met with universal approbation. Many Atlanta citizens were up in arms. The Columbus *Times* and *Sentinel* for January 3, 1854, quoted the following item from the Atlanta *Intelligencer*:

"TOWN MEETING—The citizens of Atlanta and vicinity are requested to meet at Parr's Hall on Friday night, the 23rd inst., to make some expression of public feeling in regard to the pardon of Elijah Bird, and take such other action as may be deemed necessary for the future enforcement of the laws of the land.

MANY CITIZENS."

The results of the meeting are not of record but a condition of the pardon was that Bird should leave the State. Accordingly he went to Louisiana where he carried on a plantation for several years, and where he ultimately paid for his crime. A hired man, with whom he had had some trouble, followed him out into the field one day after dinner, picked up a cane hoe and split his head down to the ears. Bird was left lying as he fell, with the hoe in the wound. His slayer was never apprehended.[51]

Fate plays strange tricks and the passage of time leaves in its wake unusual results. The ante-bellum home of John Bird eventually passed into the hands of William H. Sprayberry, member of an old De Kalb family, who with his aged wife died therein in 1910 from drinking poisoned coffee. The nearby ante-bellum homes of Merrell Collier, Dempsey Perkerson and Lochlin Johnson, contemporaries and neighbors of John Bird have long since disappeared. Yet the Bird home stands today, tight and sound as ever upon a hill on the River

Road in De Kalb County, overlooking the fine bottom lands that, but for the crime of his son, John Bird might have longer enjoyed, and passed to his descendants.[52]

NOTES—CHAPTER 29

[1] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 89.

[2] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1851, Book B.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 89; *City Directory,* 1871, p 36.

[5] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 90.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] Johnson had been succeeded as Sheriff of the County, by Edwin G. Collier on Jan. 16, 1851.

[8] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 90-91.

[9] *Ibid.,* 91-92

[10] *Ibid.,* 92.

[11] *Ibid.,* 92-93.

[12] *Ibid.,* 93.

[13] *Ibid,* 93-94.

[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 67.

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] Holland's house occupied the northeast corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets.

[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 67-68.

[18] Composed of Charles Murphy, of Decatur, and John Collier, of Atlanta.

[19] Not erected until 1854.

[20] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1851", *A.H.B.,* XI, 30-32.

[21] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 36-37.

[22] Barker, "Council Minutes", *loc. cit.*

[23] Jones and Reynolds, *Coweta County,* 97-98.

[24] Now Western Railway of Alabama.

[25] Jones and Reynolds, *Coweta County,* 98.

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] Clifford L. Smith, *History of Troup County* (Atlanta, 1933), 108.

[28] Atlanta & West Point trains use the tracks of the Central of Georgia in getting to the Terminal Station in Atlanta.

[29] Record of Postmasters, De Kalb and Fulton.

[30] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 584.

[31] Phillips's Map of Fulton County, 1872; "Garrett's Necrology".

[32] Mitchell, "Parish, Immaculate Conception", *loc. cit.,* 28-33; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 154-155; Reed, *Atlanta,* 398; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta Churches Made History", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 9, 1936.

[33] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 20; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 121-122; Sam W. Small, "My Story of Atlanta", Chap. XII, *Atlanta Constitution,* 1925; "Garrett's Necrology".

[34] Reed, *Atlanta,* 316.

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[38] Reed, *Alanta,* 317.

[39] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1851, Book B.

[40] S. B. Hoyt, "The Shumate Family", *De Kalb New Era,* Nov. 25, 1886; "Garrett's Necrology".

[41] Hoyt, "Shumate Family", *loc. cit.*

[42] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850; Records, Ordinary's Office, De Kalb County; "Garrett's Necrology".

[43] Present site of the Metropolitan Cafe, 64 Decatur Street.

[44] De Kalb County Deed Book N, 29.

[45] Facts of the case are set forth in Minutes S. C., De Kalb, April term, 1853, Book C, 174-205.

[46] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1852, Book B.

[47] *Ibid.,* 1853, Book C.

[48] *Ibid.*

[49] 14 *Ga. Reports,* 43.

[50] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1853, Book C.

[51] Reed, *Atlanta,* 296.

[52] "Garrett's Necrology". Home visited by the present writer on June 17, 1950. Located in Land Lot 40, 15th District, De Kalb, and then owned, together with 90 acres, by Mr. and Mrs. Dave W. Douglas.

CHAPTER 30

1852

A NUMBER of events commanded national attention in 1852. Henry Clay and Daniel Webster were removed by death from the stage they had so long and ably occupied. First publication of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in book form was to fan the smoldering embers of the slavery question into flame, and the course of empire moved westward when the first passenger train left Chicago for Joliet on the Rock Island, first railroad to cross the Mississippi.[1]

Franklin Pierce, the Democratic nominee, was elected president over the live nominees of the Whig and Free Soil parties and the dead nominee of the "Know Nothing Party." General Winfield Scott carried the banner for the Whigs and John P. Hale for the Free Soilers. The Know Nothing standard bearer, Daniel Webster, died between the time of his nomination and the election.[2]

Though dead, the late illustrious Mr. Webster received 5,289 votes in Georgia. Pierce carried the State in spite of the fact that General Scott polled a respectable vote in all sections of Georgia.[3]

Indeed, the General's candidacy inspired the establishment of a weekly campaign newspaper in Atlanta. The paper emanated from an office on the east side of Whitehall between the railroad and Alabama Street. Its publisher was C. R. Hanleiter, who received editorial assistance from General E. R. Mills. Known as the *Whig Reveille,* it appeared for four months during 1852 until retreat was sounded by the election of Pierce.[4]

On January 8, 1852, the last slate of De Kalb County officers to serve before the creation of Fulton County, the following year, took office. They were: Thomas J. Perkerson, Sheriff; Robert M. Brown, Clerk Superior Court; Alexander Johnson, Clerk Inferior Court; Hugh M. Boyd, Receiver Tax Returns; John M. Smith (founder of Mt. Gilead Methodist Church), Tax Collector; William Johnston, Coroner, and Malcolm McLeod, Surveyor.[5] Of this group, Perkerson, Boyd and Smith lived in that part of De Kalb cut off into Fulton.[6]

Alexander Johnson was soon to assume the additional office of Ordinary. On January 27, 1852, he became De Kalb's first.[7] The Constitution of Georgia had been amended in 1851 so as to create a Court of Ordinary, or Register of Probates, for each county. Chief duties of the Ordinary were registering wills, granting letters of administration and issuing marriage licenses. From 1789 to 1851 the probation of wills had been invested in the Inferior Courts.[8]

A De Kalb County grand jury, during April, 1852, recognized one of the facts of life, still eminently true, when it observed that the new jail in Decatur cost $6,887.28, exceeding the contract price by $1,387.28.[9]

A plethora of whiskey and a paucity of free public schools, characterized De Kalb County, and later Fulton, in the decade of the 1850's. The former was leading to an ever increasing number of indictments, particularly in Atlanta, for "keeping a tippling house open on the Sabbath day", "selling spirituous liquors to negro man slaves", "selling liquor without a license", etc. It was felt by the better citizens of the county that if the ratio were reversed the problem would be solved. This feeling was forcefully expressed by the grand jury serving for the second week of the October 1852 term of the De Kalb Superior Court.

"In accordance with the action of the several States of the Union we deem it a debt of gratitude we owe the father of his Country in the perpetuation of his memory, by the erection of the Washington Monument. For the promotion of this great object we recommend that the Managers of Elections at each precinct throughout the County be provided with a small box into which each voter may cast his mite, and that the sum so collected be paid to the County Treasurer and the same be forwarded to the Treasurer of the monument.

"We concur with his Honor on the Subject of Education, but regret that we are not able to offer something more worthy of consideration on the subject. We are satisfied, as remarked by his Honor, that the different religious denominations have taken the subject of Education into consideration, and are doing much good in the way of colleges and high schools. We would recommend our Legislature to adopt some general system different from our present, as the amount raised is not sufficient and teachers are not competent. We would recommend a System of free Schools, sustained and supported by the State, in which the rudiments of an Education are thoroughly taught, and the Youth of our Country fitted for the practical duties of life.

"It is a burning shame and disgrace to the Legislature of our State when we come to examine and see from our Census returns, the number of persons who cannot read and write. It is truly a reproach, and should not exist. We deem it far better that we be taxed to educate our children, than to support the idle and dissolute in alms houses and prisons, which we deem a natural consequence in the absence of Education.

"As a body we can but deplore the alarming increase of crime in our county, and in casting about for the cause, the conviction is irresistibly forced upon us, from the facts which have been developed by our investigations, that it is attributable mainly to the excessive intemperate use of ardent spirits. Nor indeed is this to be wondered at when we reflect that it deprives man of his reason; influences and excites to action all the grocer (*sic*) and animal passions of his nature, and thereby fits and qualifies him for the perpetration of the most degrading and atrocious crimes.

"Neither can we hope for any amendment in this particular while this bane of human life and destroyer of human happiness is so abundant and so easy to be obtained. We are therefore of opinion that no plan which has been suggested for the suppression of this evil can be looked to with any hope of success which stops short of an absolute prohibition of the retail of intoxicating drinks.

"We would therefore desire to bring this subject before the public mind, with a view that our fellow citizens would give to it that calm and sober reflection which its importance demands, and determine for themselves whether they are willing to be taxed annually the Enormous sum of fifteen hundred or two thousand dollars for the support of pauper criminals with which our jail is crowded, for the sole benefit of a few licensed retail grocery keepers who are no advantage to the community, and whose business is production of only evil, and that continually.

"We feel satisfied that when this subject is viewed in all its bearings by an intelligent community, that there is but little doubt as to the nature of the verdict which will be pronounced. Therefore, acting under a deep sense of the importance of the subject, and of their high obligations to the community, we cheerfully unite with our fellow jurors of the first week of this Court, and with the Grand Juries of Floyd, Cass, Gwinnett and other counties who have spoken on the subject, in recommending to the next Legislature the passage of such laws, as in their wisdom, will most effectually suppress the retail of intoxicating drinks."

Lodowick Tuggle, Foreman

John C. Harris
Robert Jones
James W. Kirkpatrick
Alfred J. H. Poole
Benjamin Crowley
James W. Crockett
William R. Ayres
Larkin Nash
John McCullough
William A. David
Cammilus A. Haralson

Bartley M. Smith
Alexander Vaughn
Daniel McNeil
Robert M. Clarke
Ebenezer Tilley
Edward D. Wood
Harris Crowley
John N. Swift
Hilliard J. Fowler
William W. Roark
James J. Winn.[10]

"We, the undersigned members of the Grand Jury, regret that the evil of intemperance exists in our community, and hope that all good and worthy citizens will use their influence to suppress same evil by the force of moral example. But believing as we do that any Legislative action on this subject to be improper and impolitic, therefore we beg leave to enter our protest against that portion of the general presentments of this Body."

James W. Crockett
William A. David
Larkin Nash

Robert Jones
John C. Harris
Alfred J. H. Poole[11]

Today, a century later, unanimity upon the liquor question has yet to be attained.

Jonathan Norcross was succeeded as mayor of Atlanta early in 1852 by Dr. Thomas Fortson Gibbs, a somewhat shadowy figure in Atlanta history when compared with his predecessor, who stands out in bold relief. Dr. Gibbs was born, probably in Elbert County, Georgia, about 1798, son of William and Elizabeth Fortson Gibbs. He represented Elbert County in the lower branch of the State Legislature in 1837 and did not come to Atlanta until after 1850. The 1850 Census of Elbert County lists Thomas F. Gibbs as age 52, occupation "Doctor", and with a family consisting of 5 males and 5 females.[12] The Doctor served his full one year term as mayor, but apparently left Atlanta soon afterward.[13] It is said that he went to Memphis, Tennessee.[14]

Councilmen elected to serve with Dr. Gibbs were Stephen Terry, Ira O. McDaniel, Jonathan Norcross, William T. Gunby, Leonard C. Simpson and Robert E. Mangum.[15] A number of interesting matters came before Dr. Gibbs and his associates during their custody of city affairs:

Feb 6, 1852. Rules of Order:—Each Councilman to take his seat with his hat off when Council is called to order. Fine of $1 for 30 minutes tardy.

Feb. 6.	Street Committee to handle all street work direct instead of by contract.
Feb. 16.	Street Committee had four negroes and necessary implements. Repaired bridge on Hunter Street, repaired breach in Calaboose, and were then grubbing Collins Street. Cellar doors on Whitehall sidewalks recommended to be removed. An ordinance that no cellar door could obstruct more than two feet of Whitehall side walks.
Mar. 1.	Three patrol districts established:[16] First, area north of W. & A. and Georgia railroads—John Glen. Second, area east of Whitehall Street—Eli J. Hulsey. Third, area west of Whitehall Street—A. W. Mitchell. One captain and three patrolmen for each area.
Mar. 1.	Committee of two to report at next meeting practicability of building a bridge across the railroad opposite the city hall lot, and to procure right of way through Dougherty's lot north of the railroad. Gunby and Howell, Committee.[17]
Mar. 19.	Knives and forks purchased for the barbecue last year [July 4] placed in the hands of T. F. Gibbs & Son, to be sold at auction as soon as possible.
April 24.	Clark Howell resigned from Council, as he removed from the city.
April 26.	Street tax reduced from $5 to $3. Council met any time it could get a quorum.
May 14.	Rough seats made for Council. Cost $3.
May 21.	Slaves must have written permission to have spirits. No slave or other person of color could furnish liquor to another person of color. Penalty, 39 lashes on the bare back.
June 28.	Recommendations Bridge Committee:—3-span bridge at $400. Width of cut here scarcely 100 feet. Very deep. Bridge to be 30 feet wide, opposite northwest corner of City Lot, 30 feet on west side of said lot to be set apart as a street, and that a new street be opened north to Marietta. Approved July 12th. NOTE: The street thus provided for was originally called Market; later Bridge, and finally Broad.
July 12.	Councilmen Norcross, McDaniel and Simpson appointed a committee to arrange to commemorate the death and services of Henry Clay.
Aug. 9.	Officers arresting persons must keep them somewhere else than the Council room while awaiting trial.
Sept. 27.	The Committee on streets to whom was referred the erection of a guardhouse, report that the same is now completed. The house is 23 x 11 feet, with three rooms made of wood.
Nov. 12.	Mitchell Street ordered opened to Corporation line [city limits].[18]

When Councilman Clark Howell resigned in April, 1852 and left the city, he did not go far. He established residence upon recently acquired land on Peachtree Creek[19] and erected a grist- and sash-sawmill beside that stream, which, aside from serving its normal utilitarian purposes, became a famous land mark and place name. The name Howell Mill is, in fact, known to more people today, than ever made use of its facilities when in operation.[20]

"Howell's Mills" became a United States Post Office on February 29, 1876, with their proprietor as postmaster. He was succeeded on September 7, 1881, by Carr Cox, for whom the intersection of Moore's Mill and Howell Mill roads was once called Cox's Cross Roads. Charles A. Howell, a son of Clark, became postmaster in 1886 and William J. Wilson in 1889; the office was discontinued in 1891 and the mail transferred to Easton.[21]

The original Howell Mill, situated in low ground on the north bank of Peachtree Creek just downstream from the present concrete bridge over that stream on Howell Mill Road, was accidentally destroyed by fire in the late 1870's,[22] at which time its builder moved back to Atlanta.

The original Clark Howell (1811-1882), known as "Judge" after service on the old Fulton County Inferior Court, was the third generation of his family to be identified with the Atlanta area, where his great-great-grandsons are developing into useful citizens.

First of the name in this section was the Judge's grandfather, Joseph Howell, Jr., who saw active service in the Revolution at Guilford Court House and King's Mountain. He died in that part of De Kalb County later cut off into Campbell, and now in Fulton, in 1835 at the advanced age of 102. Of the eleven children of Joseph Howell, Jr., and his wife Margaret Eleanor Garmon, three became residents of this section. They were Isaac (1785-1860), joint owner, with Alston H. Green, of the Green & Howell Ferry across the Chattahoochee; Eleanor (1791-1845), wife of John Kiser, of old Campbell County, and progenitor of that well known Atlanta family, and Evan (1782-1868), father of the original Clark.[23]

Evan Howell was born in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, and in the early 1820's came to Gwinnett County, Georgia, where he took up land and settled on the north bank of the Chattahoochee at what is now called Warsaw. Here he lived a useful life as a farmer and country merchant for nearly fifty years. His eldest child, named Clark, for William Clark, explorer of the northwest, was born in Cabarrus County, North Carolina, but reared in Gwinnett County, Georgia.[24]

At twenty-one Clark Howell married Martha Ann Winn, of that prominent Gwinnett family, and who died in childbirth at the early age of 15 years and one month.[25] In 1838 he was married again.

This time it was to Effiah Jane Park, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier from Virginia, whose widow had moved to Lawrenceville. She bore him eight children, six of whom lived to maturity. They were Evan P., Albert, William H., Charles A., Martha, married Nathan Lyon, and Clark, Jr.[26]

Shortly after his second marriage Clark Howell moved to Cobb County, where he built the Lebanon Mills near Roswell, and which county he represented in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1843. Later he returned to Gwinnett where he had the misfortune to lose his second wife, aged 33, on November 22, 1850. She was buried in the family cemetery at Warsaw[27] under the following epitaph:

"Weep not for lo! another gem
Christ in his crown hath set;
And brilliant in that diadem,
Shines her you now regret."

Shortly thereafter Mr. Howell moved to Atlanta where he purchased the still unfinished Crawford W. Long home and where he later married Miss Mary D. Hook, daughter of Dr. Daniel Hook, of Atlanta. She became the mother of Katherine, later Mrs. A. Park Woodward and of Dr. Daniel Hook Howell. The original Clark Howell was a quiet, unobtrusive citizen, whose greatest delight was in his family. At the time of his death in 1882 he owned 4,000 acres of land in Fulton County, and was serving as a member of the County Commission. He and his third wife, who survived him by four years, are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[28]

Despite the best efforts of Atlanta's newly created Street Committee, the editor of the *Intelligencer* took pen in hand, and in February, 1852, under an editorial headed "A word to Strangers", issued the following warning:

"If you arrive in town on any of the numerous railroads that terminate here, it will probably be just before dark. After refreshing yourself with a hearty meal at some one of our well conducted hotels, you will feel a desire to take a stroll about town, at least through Whitehall Street. Starting from the vicinity of the railroads you can proceed fearlessly till you come to the first cross street, called Alabama Street. Don't think of walking out of your direction to walk up that street unless the moon shines particularly bright, or unless you hang to the coattail of some friendly guide; as without such aid you would probably find yourself in about two minutes at the bottom of a pit, fifteen feet in diameter by eighteen feet deep, which occupies the center of the road, and thus occasion considerable trouble to those who happen to be near, in procuring ropes to drag you out, and in such case, you might besides, be inclined to form an unfavorable impression in regard to our city regulations, as did a gentleman last week, who was hauled out of the pit pretty badly injured.

"Passing this point, you can continue in Whitehall Street, but by all means take the right hand side, as on the left are two deep trenches dug out of cellars. At present they are admirably adapted to catch unwary passengers. In one night last week, during a rain storm, they caught no less than five—two ladies and three gentlemen, returning from a concert. One of these was a stranger in the City, and while spreading himself before a blazing fire in the Holland House, to dry the red clay with which his garments were beautifully covered, gave way so much to his feelings that he was observed very much upset at the mention of our venerable city council.

"Proceeding on the right hand side of the street you will have a very comfortable walk until you come to Cook's corner, where the pavement ceases. Here you had better turn square around and walk back, for directly in advance is another pit, fifteen by eighteen feet, ready to take you in. In some parts of the town we believe these holes have been covered over. The one in front of Loyd & Perryman's store, where a man fell in and broke his neck some weeks since, we are credibly informed was promptly covered after the event."[29]

Complaints were also being received relative to some of the county roads, and in connection therewith the Inferior Court was inspired to issue the following order in December, 1852:

"It appearing to the Court that the Public Road leading from Decatur by John W. Fowler's Mill, called the Rock Bridge Road, and also the Road leading from the Rock Bridge Road near Indian Creek Church to Stone Mountain are in such bad condition as to be impassible. It is therefore ordered that the commissioners on said Roads be fined the sum of twenty dollars each for their neglect of duty, unless they cause said Roads to be put in good order within thirty days from this date."[30]

Until 1852 Atlanta's modest banking requirements had been taken care of by agencies. However a need for full fledged banking facilities had manifested itself. The movement for the establishment of such a bank commenced in 1851 when the *Intelligencer* for September 11 suggested that in a city of the business and population of Atlanta an institution affording money facilities was greatly needed, and almost indispensible to the continued prosperity of the city. Further, that much inconvenience had been felt by the merchants for want of a bank.[31]

On January 27, 1852, a charter was secured for the "Atlanta Bank", the incorporators being John F. Mims, William Ezzard, E. W. Holland, I. O. McDaniel, Clark Howell, Jonathan Norcross, Benjamin O. Jones, J. A. Hayden, Richard Peters, William M. Butt, L. P. Grant, Ezekiel Mason, James A. Collins, Joseph Winship, Barrington King, Willis P. Menifee, C. W. Arnold, John D. Stell, T. M. Jones, N. L. Angier, J. T. Humphries, Stephen Terry, Joseph Thompson and James Loyd. Capital stock of the Atlanta Bank was fixed at $300,000.[32]

A more representative group of local and nearby citizens could hardly have been found. Yet after subscription books had been open for eight months in Atlanta, Decatur, Lawrenceville, Roswell and in Coweta County, not a single share of stock had been subscribed.[33]

Thus matters stood until March, 1853, when George Smith, of Chicago, paid a visit to Atlanta. Upon learning of the sad plight of the incipient bank, he informed the incorporators that he was willing to take the entire capital stock himself. This proposal being agreeable, he subscribed for 2,995 shares, 2,991 in his own name and one each in the names of four non-residents of Georgia. Two days later the remaining shares were taken by Joseph Thompson, J. A. Hayden, Joseph Winship, Jonathan Norcross and N. L. Angier, citizens of Atlanta. During 1853 organization of the bank was perfected by the election of Stephen C. Higginson as president, Joseph R. Valentine as cashier and George Smith, Patrick Strachan, S. C. Higginson, J. R. Valentine and J. A. Hayden, directors.[34]

The Atlanta Bank began forthwith a short and checkered career. For some reason, never justified, a spirit of distrust arose in connection with its methods of doing business. Late in 1853 it was investigated by the Legislature,[35] which resulted in a report by Logan E. Bleckley, Solicitor-General of the Coweta Circuit, to the effect that he found no violation of the charter.[36]

Soon thereafter the New York *Journal of Commerce* took upon itself the publication of a critique directed at several Georgia banks, including the Atlanta Bank, in which it expressed alarm at the wide circulation in the north, of paper money issued by these banks.

To this attack the *Examiner* of September 7, 1854, made the following response:

"We are not advocates of the paper money system; but we are at a loss to know the reasons for this crusade against the Bank of Atlanta. The bank here redeems its issues with a promptitude not surpassed by any bank in the state, and we see no reason why the Atlanta Bank is not as sound an institution as any of a similar kind, so long as it pays specie for its notes. If its notes circulate further off than other bank notes, it is the good fortune of the bank to secure such a good circulation, and it should not be attributed to an ulterior design until there is good cause for suspicion."[37]

The Atlanta Bank experienced several "runs" during the next few months, and while every bill presented at its counters was promptly redeemed in full, Mr. Smith became tired of the constant and unjust warfare made upon his institution. Consequently he wound up the affairs of the bank toward the latter part of 1855, and retired from the field and from Atlanta.[38] Apparently the people of the city were not as ready to support a bank as they thought they were.

Churches fared better in the Atlanta of 1852 than did banks. The Presbyterians had been engaged for a year or two in building their own house of worship upon the present site of the Federal Reserve Bank and former site of the pioneer store of Johnson and Thrasher. The lot had been given by Judge Reuben Cone, a leading member of the group, who died before the building was completed.[39]

This first building of the Presbyterian Church of Atlanta was dedicated on July 4, 1852, by Dr. John S. Wilson, the pioneer disciple of John Knox in De Kalb County and Atlanta, who preached the dedication sermon. The structure was simple in design and was constructed of red brick, with pediment, cornice and window casings painted white. The 40 x 70 lot was enclosed by a white picket fence. Provision was made in the basement for the holding of Sunday school classes. Total cost came to $4,200. This modest house of worship was embellished with neither tower nor steeple. It did, however, boast a small belfrey in anticipation of a bell.[40] The belfrey was to remain untenanted. By the time the congregation could afford a bell, John Silvey, who owned the property between the church and Spring Street, had built his home. It was his custom to retire every evening at 7 P. M. and it is said that he made a generous contribution to the church, in return for which it was agreed that there would be no bell to interrupt his early nocturnal rest.[41]

During the same year the Presbyterians of Atlanta raised their first house of worship, a group of pioneer Baptists, among whom were the names of Ivy, Jones, Tuggle, Stephens, Lively, Hopkins, Wallace and Akins, founded the Peachtree Baptist Church at the present intersection of Briarcliff and La Vista roads. The 41 charter members erected a log building at what was then known as "The Bartering Post." This building was destroyed during the war of the sixties and was replaced by a frame building. The present handsome brick building, at the same location, but now surrounded by hundreds of new residences, was completed in 1950.[42]

Atlanta's first mayor, Moses W. Formwalt, survived her third, Willis Buell, by only six months. After going out of office early in 1849, Formwalt continued to carry on his tin and copper ware manufacturing business, his fine copper stills having found a ready market throughout North Georgia. In early 1852 he took on the additional employment of deputy to sheriff Thomas J. Perkerson, of De Kalb County. In May, 1852, while serving as deputy sheriff, he was stabbed to death by a prisoner while descending the stairway from council chamber in the McDaniel, Mitchell and Hulsey Building at Whitehall and Hunter streets.[43]

The city's first chief executive was laid to rest in an unmarked grave on the James Bell lot at Oakland Cemetery. The body lay cloaked in almost complete anonymity for 64 years. Then, in 1916, a movement was set in motion to locate the grave and transfer the remains to a separate plot, suitably marked. Accordingly, on November 15, 1916, a rough hewn gray granite monument, at the end of the Fair Street Drive and only a few feet from the cemetery office, was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies. The presentation speech was made by Councilman George Freeman and the monument was accepted for the city by Mayor James G. Woodward. Short speeches were made by Major A. J. West, Dr. Charles D'Alvigny and others. The stone was unveiled by J. N. Porter, Jr.[44] It is inscribed:

ERECTED
BY
THE CITY OF ATLANTA
TO THE MEMORY OF
ATLANTA'S FIRST MAYOR
MOSES W. FORMWALT
1848

An iron tablet affixed to the stone is lettered as follows:

ERECTED BY
CEMETERY COMMISSION
ATLANTA, GA., 1916

SAM P. CRONHEIM, CHAIRMAN
FRANK HILL, SECRETARY
FOREST GREEN
R. A. McMURRY
P. J. BLOOMFIELD
J. G. WOODWARD, EX-OFFICIO
GEO. P. FREEMAN, EX-OFFICIO

J. N. PORTER, GEN'L MN'G
OAKLAND CEMETERY
MADE BY W. E. DEAN

The above gentlemen are due a vote of thanks for rescuing our first mayor from oblivion.

The Inventory and Appraisement of Moses Formwalt's Estate[45] is a document of 13 pages, consisting for the most part of a list of notes and accounts due the deceased. That his home was simply furnished is indicated by the inventory of personal property, which follows:

1	Mahogany Bureau	$ 30.00
1	" Centertable	10.00
1	" Sofa	50.00
3	Beds, bedstead & furniture	100.00
6	Chairs $5; 1 wash stand $1.50	6.50
1	Set walnut dining tables	5.00
3	Looking glasses	3.00
1	Cupboard, walnut $2; 1 pine table or slate $2	4.00

1	Clock $1; 1 Mantle clock $5	6.00
1	Rocking chair	3.00
2	Glass lamps $3; 1 glass candle stick $3	6.00
3	Wash basins & 2 ewers	2.00
2	Work boxes $2; 1 lot books $5	7.00
1	Paper case $3; 1 spinning wheel 50¢	3.50
2	Common pine tables & wash stand	2.00
1	Lot cooking utensils & kitchen furniture	10.00
1	Lot knives & forks	1.00
1	Walnut folding table	3.00
1	Negro woman, Ann	600.00
1	" " Harriett & child	700.00
1	" girl, Caroline	200.00
		$1751.50

Given under our hands and seals, this 10th day of July, 1852.

Ira O. McDaniel
T. Doonan } Appraisers
Allen E. Johnson

Joseph Thompson, Administrator.

In addition to the granite marker at Oakland Cemetery, Formwalt Street, Southwest, remains to perpetuate the name of Moses Formwalt.

By the decade of the 1850's De Kalb County was losing some of its best pioneer citizens by death. Three who died in 1852 were Andrew Johnson and William Goldsmith, of Stone Mountain, and James W. Reeve, of Cross Keys. All were natives of South Carolina. Johnson, born in 1800, was the genial hotel keeper of Stone Mountain and a promoter of the various fairs of the Southern Central Agricultural Society. Goldsmith, born in Greenville District in 1796, was an older brother of Turner Goldsmith, later a noted citizen of Atlanta. The Messrs. Johnson and Goldsmith are buried, substantially marked, in their joint family cemetery on Memorial Drive just west of the town of Stone Mountain. James W. Reeve, merchant, Master Mason and farmer, was the most extensive ante-bellum landowner in Cross Keys District. His property lay along both sides of Peachtree Road between the present sites of Brookhaven and Oglethorpe University. He was born in 1792 and died leaving a large family, many of the descendants of which are good citizens of the Atlanta area. Mr. Reeve is buried in the Nancy Creek Baptist Churchyard on Peachtree Road.[46]

In a growing community the ranks left vacant by the departed are always quickly filled by new arrivals, and the names of Haverty, Winship and Healey first appear in our records during 1851-52.

The Haverty family was introduced upon the local stage by the Clerk of the De Kalb County Superior Court in the following language:

"October Term, 1852.
United States of America
State of Georgia, De Kalb County.

Be it remembered that on the 5th day of October, 1852, personally appeared before me, Robert M. Brown, Clerk of the Superior Court of said

County, the said Court being a Court of Record, having a Clerk and Seal, THOMAS HAVERTY, who being duly sworn upon his oath says, that his name is THOMAS HAVERTY, that he was born in that part of the Kingdom of Great Britain called Ireland, and in the County of Clare, that he is about thirty years of age, has blue eyes, light hair and fair complexion, that he is a subject of Queen Victoria and that his allegiance is due to her; that he emigrated from Liverpool and landed at New Orleans in the State of Louisiana in the United States, in the month of August, 1848, and that he intends settling in the State of Georgia; and further this deponent says that he is bona fide his intention to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any power, Prince Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatsoever and particularly to the Queen of Great Britain of whom he is now a subject."

THOMAS HAVERTY.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of October, 1852.
R. M. BROWN, *Clerk.*[47]

Mr. Haverty lived in Atlanta a short time, after which he left for a few years to engage in railroad building between Chattanooga and Shelby, Tennessee. However, he returned in 1857 and lived a useful citizen of the community until his death in 1896. He left five children, Mrs. Kate Daly, Mrs. Ellen Daly, Mrs. M. A. Webb, Michael and James J. Haverty.[48] The latter was destined to make his mark in the business, religious and cultural life of Atlanta.

Joseph Winship was one of the pioneer heavy industry men of Atlanta, establishing, shortly after his arrival in 1851, a freight car manufactory on the present site of the Austell, or Ten Forsyth Street Building. He was born in New Salem, Massachusetts, in 1800 and had come South in 1820 locating first at Monticello, Georgia. From there he went to Clinton in Jones County and thence to Forsyth where, with his brother Isaac, he established a shoe factory and tannery. In 1845 he built a cotton gin manufactory in Morgan County, from which place he came to Atlanta.[49]

The car works met with destruction by fire in 1856, and Mr. Winship having already started a machine shop and iron works on the W. & A. R. R. at Foundry Street, thereafter concentrated upon the latter activity. The Winship Machine Works, though completely destroyed during the war in 1864, was rebuilt and prospered mightily under Joseph's sons Robert and George. This Atlanta manufacturing landmark has been absorbed by the Continental Gin Company. Joseph Winship and his wife Emily Hutchings were the parents of eleven children, nine of whom were living at the time of his death on September 4, 1878. Among his many descendants are grandsons George and Charles T. Winship, of Atlanta, the former president of the Fulton Supply Company and the latter an attorney. Great-grandson, Robert Winship Woodruff, has, since 1923, been the moving spirit of the world-wide business of Atlanta-born Coca-Cola. Another great-grandson, George W. Woodruff, is Board Chairman of the Continental Gin Company.[50]

An interesting bit of real estate history began with the purchase, by Joseph Winship on May 12, 1852, of one acre, including the present site of the Paramount Theater on Peachtree Street. Winship acquired this land from William Ezzard, administrator of the Hardy Ivy estate, for $580, and built thereon a home which he occupied for some years. In October, 1866, he sold the property to Oliver H. Jones for $15,000. The market apparently declined temporarily for in January, 1867, Jones sold the acre to Henry Banks for $14,000. The Banks heirs sold the present theater site fronting 90.5 feet on Peachtree Street with a uniform width to Ivy Street, to Asa G. Candler for $97,000 on November 30, 1909. Forrest and George W. Adair bought it from Candler for $120,000 on April 17, 1911. A lease to Troup and C. B. Howard was made in 1919, based on a property valuation of $625,000, a condition of the lease being the erection of a theater, which with equipment should cost not less than $250,000. (It cost more than $750,000.)[51] Joseph Winship's acre is now worth considerably more than a million dollars.

Thomas G. Healey, who together with his descendants has impressed that good name indelibly upon the City of Atlanta, was born near Hartford, Connecticut, in 1818, and in early life was apprenticed to a mechanic. Having mastered a useful trade he moved into Hartford to become a contractor and builder, in which capacity he was to become such a useful factor in the building of Atlanta. In 1846 he came South and located in Savannah. Later, after a short stint in McDonough, he cast his lot with Atlanta about 1852, arriving some months before his brother-in-law William Markham, also a native of Connecticut, but more recently a resident of McDonough.[52]

Not long after his arrival Mr. Healey formed a partnership with Julius A. Hayden in the brick manufacturing business at the corner of Mechanic and Elliott (then Fowler) streets. After the war of the sixties Healey formed a partnership with Maxwell R. Berry. As contractors and builders the firm erected many notable buildings, including the Church of the Immaculate Conception, the Second Baptist, Trinity Methodist and First Presbyterian churches, the two John H. James mansions and the U. S. Custom House, later the City Hall, at Marietta and Forsyth streets.

During all of this time Mr. Healey, by thrift and hard work, was accumulating earnings which he invested for the most part in choice Atlanta real estate, including the old Kile corner whereon is now situated the William-Oliver Building. In common with his original partner Judge Hayden, Healey took a great interest in the Atlanta Gas Light Company, and served as its president from 1877 to 1882. The young mechanic from Hartford, Connecticut, lived a full and useful life, and when he died in October, 1897, was rated as a millionaire.[53] He was survived by his wife, nee Olive Markham, and two sons, William T. and Charles Allen Healey. It was the older son, William, who a few years later, erected the present Healey Building on Forsyth Street. William's widow and her two sons, William T. and Oliver M., built the William-Oliver Building in 1930 and ably represent their forbears in the Atlanta of today.

NOTES—CHAPTER 30

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 122.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 168.
[4] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 20; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 122.
[5] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.
[6] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850.
[7] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.
[8] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 182.
[9] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1852, Book B.
[10] *Ibid.,* Book C.
[11] *Ibid.*

[12] Letter of Mrs. J. B. Palmer, Thomasville, Ga., great-granddaughter of Dr. Thomas F. Gibbs, to Franklin M. Garrett, Apr. 29, 1947.

[13] Not listed in Fulton County Tax Digest of 1854, or any other subsequent local record.

[14] "Recollections of Capt. Wm. A. Fuller", *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 12, 1894.

[15] *Annual Reports of the Committees of Council, Officers and Departments of the City of Atlanta, 1899* (Atlanta, 1900), 578. Hereafter cited as *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899.

[16] The city had not yet been divided into wards.

[17] Preliminary steps in the building of the Broad Street bridge across the railroad. Atlanta's first Clark Howell had become a member of Council, but as a replacement or addition, is not of record.

[18] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1852", *A.H.B.,* XI, 32-35.

[19] There is no deed of record into Clark Howell covering the large tract he owned for so long on Peachtree Creek. Apparently it was not recorded and may have been accidentally destroyed.

[20] The old stone building on the west side of Howell Mill Road, just South of Peachtree Creek, now incorporated in a residence, was not part of Howell's Mill. It was a unit of a woolen mill established by the Foster Brothers, of Madison, Ga., in the early 1880's.

[21] Record Postmasters, Fulton.

[22] Statement of the late Clark Howell, Sr., to Wilbur G. Kurtz in 1933. Some years later Charles A. Howell established another Howell's Mill some distance north, on Nancy Creek, the site now being owned by Fritz Orr. The miller's small brick house is still standing.

[23] Clark Howell, *Genealogy of the Southern Line of the Family of Howell* (Atlanta, 1930); "Garrett's Necrology".

[24] Howell, *Genealogy.*

[25] Tombstone, Methodist Churchyard, Duluth, Ga.

[26] Howell, *Genealogy.*

[27] Subsequently moved to Methodist Churchyard, Duluth.

[28] Howell, *Genealogy,* "Garrett's Necrology".

[29] Quoted, Reed, *Atlanta,* 82; Hornady, *Atlanta,* 27-28.

[30] Minutes I. C., De Kalb, 1852.

[31] Reed, *Atlanta,* 420-421.

[32] *Ibid.,* 421.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] *Ibid.* With name corrections by the present writer.

[35] *Ibid.; Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 597.

[36] Reed, *Atlanta,* 422.

[37] *Ibid.*

[38] *Ibid.,* 424.

[39] Kurtz, "Atlanta Churches Made History", *loc. cit.*; "Garrett's Necrology"; Edgarta Horton, "Builders of the First Presbyterian Church", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* 1924.

[40] *Dedicatory Services, The First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, April 6, 1919* (Atlanta, 1919); Kurtz, "Atlanta Churches Made History", *loc. cit.; Horton,* "Builders, First Presbyterian Church", *loc. cit.*

[41] Kurtz, "Atlanta Churches Made History", *loc. cit.*

[42] *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 2, 1947.

[43] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, Oct., 1852, Book C. The murderer, apparently, was never apprehended. No record of an indictment or trial, Fulton or De Kalb records. Piromis H. Bell to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Oct. 13, 1835. Mr. Bell was related to Mrs. Formwalt, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Bell. She subsequently moved to South Georgia and remarried.

[44] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 23, 1916. Formwalt is buried under the fountain, adjoining the marker.

[45] Inventory and Appraisement, Book A, De Kalb County.

[46] "Garrett's Necrology".

[47] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1852, Book C.

[48] *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 9, 1896.

[49] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 709; Obituary, *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 5, 1878.

[50] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 709; "Garrett's Necrology".

[51] Scott, *Romance, Atlanta Realty.*

[52] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 26, 1897; "Garrett's Necrology".

[53] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 26, 1897; city directories, various dates, 1859-1884.

CHAPTER 31

1853

DR. GIBBS made a second try for the office of mayor on January 17, 1853, but was defeated by John F. Mims, the vote being 193 for Gibbs and 369 for Mims. B. N. Williford and Paschal House were elected marshal and deputy marshal, respectively. Seven, instead of the usual six, councilmen served during 1853. They were Julius A. Hayden, Jonathan Norcross, Leonard C. Simpson, Jared I. Whitaker, William M. Butt, Ira O. McDaniel and Joseph Winship. This was a good strong group, though two were new arrivals. Whitaker was a lawyer, recently moved to Atlanta from Fayetteville, Georgia, while Judge Butt came from Campbell County, where he had served as Justice of the Inferior Court. After moving to Atlanta in 1851 he entered the mercantile business. The city Board of Health for '53 was composed of Dr. Daniel Hook, Dr. Thomas M. Darnall, Dr. T. S. Denny, Basil H. Overby and Richard Peters.[1]

By this time Atlanta was growing rapidly indeed, and much important business in the way of physical improvement came before Mayor Mims and his council.

A need for better police protection of the town during the night had manifested itself. Accordingly, on January 28th, an ordinance was passed providing for the election by the mayor and council of a night police, consisting of three persons, one of whom should be designated as chief of police. It was made the duty of the night police to guard the city from the ringing of the council bell at night, each and every night, and until sunrise next morning. E. T. Hunnicutt was elected chief, at a salary of $30 per month, and J. A. Medlin and James M. Lester, assistants, at $25 per month. On May 7 the chief was raised to $33⅓ and the assistants to $30 each.[2]

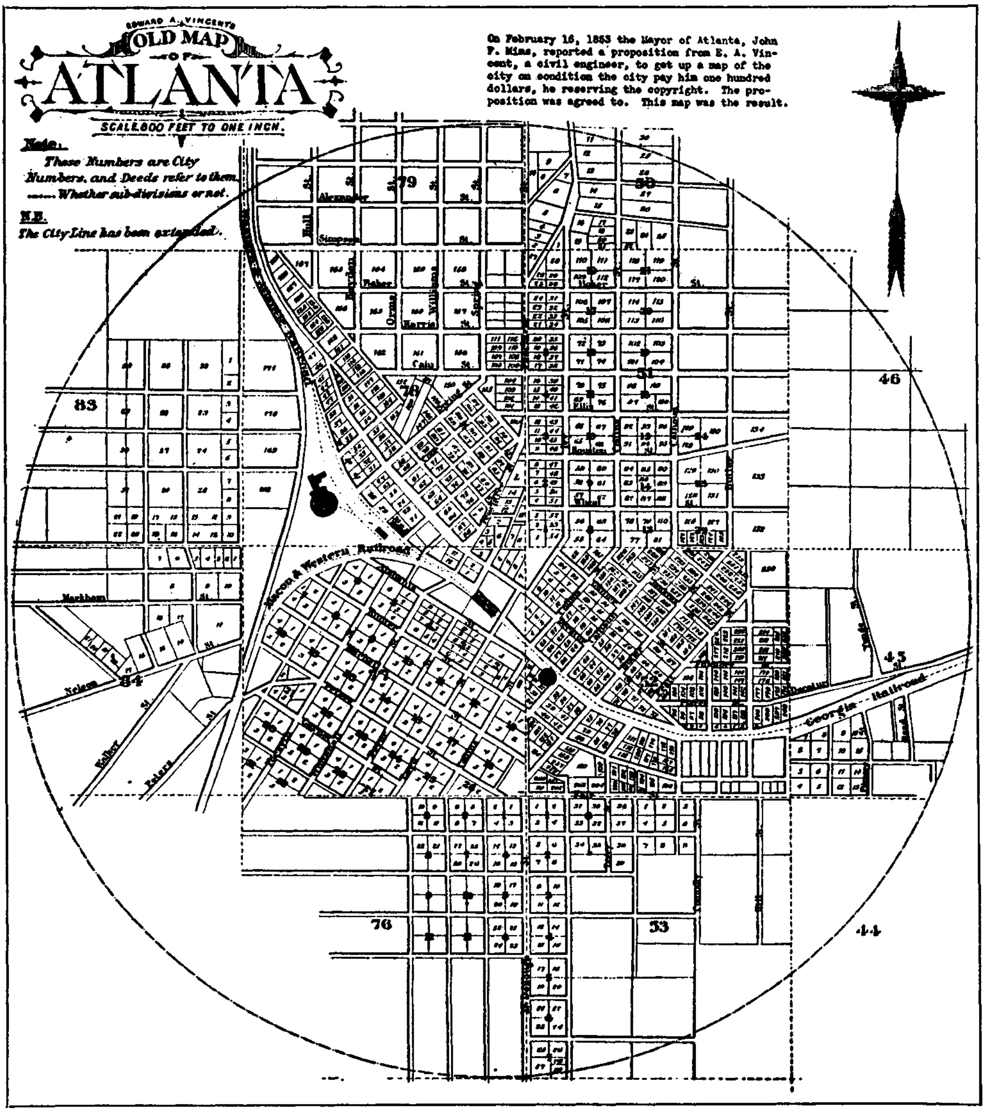
On February 16 Mayor Mims reported a proposal from Edward A. Vincent, a young engineer and native of England, to get up a map of the city for the sum of $100, he, Vincent, to retain the copyright. The proposal was agreed to and the map was made, although some argument arose in council later in the year as to its acceptance. The difficulty was ironed out and the fact that council took pride in the map is evidenced by the following resolution dated November 18, 1853:

> "Resolved, that the Mayor of Atlanta furnish the Mayor and Council of the Cities of Savannah, Augusta, Athens, Columbus, and Macon, each, with a copy of our City Map, and that he also furnish the Governor with a copy for the use of the State House."[3]

The Vincent Map of 1853 remains today the earliest extant map of the city.[4]

It is possible that Mr. Vincent's cartographic activities brought to the fore a need for a city surveyor. At any rate a motion was introduced in council during March and adopted, for the election of a city surveyor, to fix grades of streets, etc. On July 29, 1853, Dr. Hilliard L. Currier, for whom Currier Street was subsequently named, became the first individual to hold the office.[5]

The matter of bridging the deep cut over the railroad tracks and the opening of Market (now Broad) Street north to Peachtree at Luckie Street was effectuated in 1853 by the purchase of the necessary right of way from Mrs. Daniel Dougherty for $660 on February 15th, and from Ammi Williams for $200 on February 25th.[6] A wooden Howe truss bridge was then erected over the tracks by William McConnell and Patrick Lynch, contractors, replacing a plain wooden structure thirty feet in width, built the year before.[7]


Edward A. Vincent's
Old Map
of
Atlanta
Scale 800 feet to one inch.
Note.
These Numbers are City Numbers, and Deeds refer to them.
Whether sub-divisions or not.
N.B.
The City Line has been extended.
Alexander
Simpson
Bull St.
Baker
Harris
Williams
Cain
Ellis
Houston
Wheat
Macon & Western Railroad
Georgia Railroad
Decatur
Markham
Nelson
Walker
Peters
79
50
51
46
83
84
78
52
77
45
76
53
44

On February 16, 1853 the Mayor of Atlanta, John F. Mims, reported a proposition from E. A. Vincent, a civil engineer, to get up a map of the city on condition the city pay him one hundred dollars, he reserving the copyright. The proposition was agreed to. This map was the result.

(*Collection of Franklin M. Garrett*)

Vincent's old (1853) map of Atlanta as reprinted in Hopkins' Atlas of Atlanta, 1878. This is the earliest extant complete map of the city. The "Note" and "N.B." were added upon republication in the 1878 Atlas. Explanation at top added by the writer of this history

The new bridge, then and for many years thereafter the only such structure across the railroad tracks in the center of the city, inspired the first effort at artificial street lighting. On March 25, 1853, it was "Resolved [by Council] that a lamp be placed on the Bridge in Market Street; and that lamps be furnished and be put up at the expense of the City at any other points, where individuals or companies of individuals may engage to furnish fluid for the same."[8] Gas lighting was still two years in the future.

Atlanta's first central market began to take tangible form on July 1, 1853, when Edward Parsons was authorized to build market stalls on Market Street.[9] On September 10 a market committee was appointed consisting of councilmen Simpson, Whitaker and Butt. They reported on September 16 that stalls had been rented for $285; that N. L. Angier had been elected clerk, and that his pay should consist of fees on articles exposed for sale. The committee recommended that the market open one hour before sunrise and that butchers have leave to send meats off on the trains before market hours.[10] On September 30 an ordinance was passed to the effect that all meats must be sold in the city market.[11] Slaughter houses had, by this time, became a nuisance and were, on recommendation of the Board of Health, ordered removed beyond the city limits on December 9th.[12]

Jonathan Norcross, ever the advocate of internal improvements, introduced a resolution in council on February 25, 1853, for the city to subscribe $5,000 or $10,000 to build "a good wagon road or turnpike from this city to Roswell," adding that the Roswell Manufacturing Company was prepared to spend $5,000 on the project, and that public interest required that "a good wagon road be extended in the direction of Dahlonega." The resolution was voted down on March 4th.[13]

Atlanta's first hospital was inspired by the ever-present threat of smallpox, and was established at the Fair Grounds in July, 1853.[14]

The most important business to come before the mayor and council of 1853 was the building of a city hall in lieu of the makeshift quarters heretofore utilized by the city government. While the matter had been up for consideration prior to, 1853 it came to a head at the council meeting of February 9 of that year. The question was how to raise money with which to build the proposed city hall.

The committee on finance submitted a report to this meeting in which it took strong ground against advertising for the sale of city bonds, as it was not in their opinion at all probable that to advertise would bring a single bid. The following plan was therefore suggested: That the mayor, at his discretion, borrow $10,000 for the purpose of erecting a city hall, and give the city hall lot and the city hall itself as security, and also such other property as the city might then own, and in addition to all this, such special tax as might be assessed for the purpose of erecting the proposed city hall. It was proposed that the loan should be made for ten years, with semi-annual interest, the council reserving to itself the right to pay the entire debt in three, five or seven years.[15] At the same meeting the mayor was requested to learn at what price the lot known as "Peter's Reserve" could be bought. On February 18 Mayor Mims reported that the "Peter's Reserve" could be bought for $5,000, to be paid July 1, 1853, and council instructed him to close the contract.[16]

Just why the original city hall lot, between the railroad and Alabama Street west of Whitehall, was not used, is not of record. However, by deed dated June 20, 1853, Richard Peters conveyed to the mayor and council of Atlanta, City Lot No. 13, consisting of four acres, bounded by Hunter Street, McDonough Road (Capitol Avenue), Collins Street (Washington Street) and Mitchell Street for $5,000.[17] This property, then the "Peter's Reserve," is now the site of Georgia's Capitol building. Peters had purchased the property from Samuel Mitchell, of Zebulon, Pike County, on February 5, 1847, for $225,[18] and thus made a nice profit by holding it for six years.

On September 9 the Committee on Public Works, having had the subject of building a city hall under consideration, made the following report:

"The condition of the finances will justify the immediate commencement of the work in the opinion of the Committee after consultation with the Mayor. Although the season is far advanced, yet they believe there is time to get up the walls and cover them in before freezing weather—suggesting at the same time that unnecessary delay should be avoided.

"The Committee are unprepared to report any definite plan at this time, but are inclined to the opinion that a building of suitable dimensions, two stories above the base or foundation, will furnish ample room for all the public uses contemplated. The growing importance of our City, however, seems to justify, and in the opinion of some Citizens absolutely demands the erection of a building commensurate with that importance; one that need not be displaced when our City assumes that importance among the Cities of the South which seems to be indubitably indicated by the signs of the times.

"It is therefore urged by some that nothing less than $20,000 should be expended on the building. Yet the Committee believe that a very good building may be erected for $15,000, and for the sake of harmony among members of Council recommend that immediate steps be taken to erect the best house possible, both as to plan and quality, cost not exceeding $15,000.

"All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH WINSHIP, Chairman."[19]

Two weeks later, on September 24th, the Committee on Public Buildings was authorized to advertise for bids for building the City Hall, as per plans drawn by Columbus Hughes.[20] By November 4th the Committee on Public Works was able to report that the foundations of the building had been laid; also that a contract had been made with J. R. Swift for brick work; for rock work at $2.95 a perch, and with A. Powell for certain woodwork. On November 14 the mayor and the whole of council repaired to the City Hall to inspect its progress. The brick work was found to be badly executed, whereupon the contractor was instructed to have it rubbed down at his own expense and architect Hughes was reprimanded.[21] Several months were to pass before Atlanta's first city hall was completed, by which time the new County of Fulton had been created. The building was to have the distinction of serving as both City Hall and Court House.

Meanwhile, the city had lost the valuable services of John F. Mims as mayor. Ill health compelled his retirement on October 29, 1853, and, at a special election held November 12th, William Markham was chosen for the unexpired term.[22] Mr. Markham was born in Goshen, Connecticut, in 1811, and was therefore the second of Atlanta's first seven mayors from that New England state. After living in North Carolina, and Augusta and McDonough, Georgia, he cast his lot with Atlanta in January, 1853. He was to become one of the city's most useful and public-spirited citizens.[23]

Despite the presentments of grand juries anent the subject of education, free public schools were, in 1853, an objective yet to be attained. Early in '53, however, Edmund W. Holland, a native of Laurens District, South Carolina, who came to Atlanta in 1848 from Villa Rica where he had engaged in mining and merchandising, decided to do something about the education of the poor.

He acquired the old Angier Academy at Forsyth and Garnett streets, and tendered it rent free to the city for school purposes. The offer was accepted and the Holland Free School became Atlanta's first attempt at a public school. The "common English branches"—spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography—were to be taught free, tuition being charged for higher subjects. The salary of the teacher, A. W. Owen, was guaranteed by City Council. With appropriations made from time to time by the city, and a pro rata from the "poor school fund," the school was maintained until 1858, when it was discontinued.[24]

The De Kalb County grand jury for the first week of the April term, 1853, took occasion to compliment Mr. Holland:

". . . We would recommend the Inferior Court to have the apertures in the grates of the windows (of the jail) lessened, as bottles and other articles can be and are drawn or handed up and into the prisoners.

"We feel deeply interested in the morality and prosperity of our young and thriving City of Atlanta, and regard with satisfaction the firm stand taken and maintained by his Honor the Mayor, Council and officers in the administration of the ordinances made for the promotion of morals and good order. We cannot close our presentments without mentioning in terms of commendation the generous public spirit of the City authorities of Atlanta and Mr. E. W. Holland in founding a free school for the education of the poor. We take pleasure in stating that it is in successful operation under the management of Mr. Owen, with from 80 to 100 pupils."[25]

George W. Humphries, Foreman.

Allen E. Johnson
Jesse Wood
John F. Bellinger
Cicero H. Strong
Garland D. Black
James Smith
Edward A. Turner
Edmund W. Holland
William Goldsberry
John M. Hawkins
William Barnett

Richard Owens
Benjamin Burdett
Tunstal B. George
William A. Miller
Robert Baxter
Killis Brown
William Avery
Eli J. Hulsey
Joseph Pitts
Augustus L. Pitts
Samuel G. Pegg

The grand jury for the following week complimented the Legislature for its service to the State in establishing County Ordinaries, after which it castigated the liquor traffic at length and in no uncertain terms. The final paragraph of the chastisement follows:

". . . When we reflect that this traffic is the most fruitful source of ruin to our slave population, as well as crime among the white population, and lastly that the evil falls most heavily on innocent women and children whose claims and rights to protection are as sacred as any. We find that it is not the retailer or hard drinker, but the sober and temperate classes whose rights are infringed, whose time and money is consumed by this nefarious practice, and that it is they who have a just claim for relief from intolerable burdens as to the free trade contended for by the advocates of liquor, which lays our Fathers and Brothers and children, and sometimes our Mothers and Sisters in the ditch with the brute. We would say deliver us from such and give us that which arises from clear intellects and sober heads, acting as we think we do on the principles of reason and justice. This is the view of the question we would present to the County at large . . ."[26]

JONATHAN NORCROSS, Foreman.

Mr. Norcross and his associates, having exhausted the liquor question in their presentments, it fell to the lot of the next grand jury to deliver an equally trenchant blast against crime:

". . . We had hoped the time had arrived when the commission of crime would be less frequent, but we must say we are disappointed, that notwithstanding the strong arm of the law, has and is being enforced against all offenders, that crime still stalks abroad. The perpetration of crime are like the plagues sent upon Egypt. When one is removed from jail to be hanged or sent to the penitentiary, there is another ready to step in. Are these things to continue? Is the County of De Kalb to be pointed at from all parts of the State and elsewhere as the county famous for the commission of crime?"[27]

JAMES PADEN, Foreman.

It is possible that Mr. Paden and his fellow jurors had in mind the recent brutal murder of Elisha Tiller by John R. Humphries. It was reported in the Columbus, Georgia, *Tri-Weekly Times and Sentinel* for January 29, 1853, in the following language:

"MURDER—An awful murder was committed in Atlanta on last Friday night 21st inst. by John R. Humphries. It seems, from what we have heard of the case, that Humphries had heard that Elisha Tiller had threatened to kill him. They met on the above mentioned evening at James Kile's grocery, when Humphries asked Tiller if he intended to kill him. He answered that he did not, nor had he anything against him. Humphries then requested him to look towards him, and as he turned to look, he shot him with a double barreled shot gun. Tiller was killed so dead as not even to kick after he fell. Humphries burst the cap of the other barrel at Kile, the grocer, but the gun missed fire."

Humphries was a son of Charner Humphries of White Hall. A true bill charging murder was found against him in April, 1853, but insofar as the record shows he was never brought to trial.[28] Little more than a year later he was involved, together with his brother Asa and others, in another local murder.[29]

The killing of masters by slaves was by no means common in the antebellum South. It happened only once in De Kalb County and never in Fulton.

William H. Graham of Stone Mountain was a notorious Negro trader and had the reputation of being a hard master. Frank, one of Graham's slaves, had bought his own time and was working at Dr. Thompson's Atlanta Hotel. Unfortunately, he got behind in his payments and was ordered home. Fearing the wrath of his master, who incidentally was blind, he determined upon a desperate course. It ended in death for the master and the gallows for the slave.[30]

On the clear moonlit night of June 15, 1853, Frank walked from Atlanta to Stone Mountain via the tracks of the Georgia Railroad. Knowing that

Graham boarded at the Diamond home and the location of his room, Frank slipped into the house about midnight. The room in which Graham was sleeping upon his left side with his face to the wall, was receiving the full light of the moon, presenting the slave with a perfect target. He struck the sleeping man upon the head with the pole of an axe, inflicting a blow from which Graham died on June 24th. His mission accomplished, Frank departed for Atlanta, again by foot via the Georgia Railroad, reaching the city after daylight, where he was arrested as a runaway and confined in the calaboose.[31]

Suspicion first fell upon Steve, a Negro houseboy owned by Graham. Nothing could be proven against him, and subsequent events pointing to Frank, he was brought to Stone Mountain by Michael Winningham and finally confessed. He was indicted by a De Kalb grand jury on July 11th and the case "The State *vs.* Frank, a Slave Belonging to the Estate of William H. Graham," came on for trial July 13, 1853. The defendant was found guilty of murder by a jury of which Algernon S. Robbins was foreman, and was soon after hanged.[32]

A typical ante-bellum problem in the Atlanta area was that of stray livestock, and the fact that justices of the peace were not always prompt in discharging their responsibilities in that connection is illustrated by the following paragraph from the grand jury presentments for the second week of the October, 1853, term:

". . . We also find the Estray Books properly kept but regret to find several delinquent Justices of the Peace. There are no returns of the disposition made of the following Estrays: One Bull posted 10th Dec. 1852, before A. P. McCool, J.P.; one mule posted 25th Sept. 1852 before William Goldsberry, J.P.; Cow and calf and one hog posted in 1852, one sow and sow and pigs posted in 1851, and one ox posted in 1850, all before H. Casey, J.P. We desire to call the especial attention of the Justices of the Inferior Court to these delinquencies and to urge on them *strongly* the *necessity* of *adopting prompt measures* to *correct* these evils."

IRA O. MCDANIEL, Foreman.[33]

The Atlanta business and industrial picture of the early 1850's gave promise of greater things to come.

"Number of stores, exclusive of retail liquor shops, 57.
Large cotton warehouses, 4.
Amount of goods sold from Dec. 15, 1850 to December 15, 1851, $1,017,000.
Amount of Georgia and Tennessee produce sold, exclusive of cotton, for same period, $406,000.
Amount of cotton received and sold, during same period, 35,500 bales.
Amount of money advanced by bank agents to buyers in Atlanta and neighboring villages, and bills drawn against cotton shipped to Augusta, Savannah, Charleston and New York, $1,250,000—making, in round numbers, exchange or mercantile transactions over $2,500,000.

"Nor does this include large quantities of Georgia and Tennessee produce, received and sold here by the owners, the larger portion of which would probably go into stores here, were there any banking or other suitable accommodations for advancing on the same.

"There is in this city one steam flouring mill,—investment, $35,000,—the operations of which may be placed at $150,000 per annum.[34] One iron foundry and machine shop—cash operations, $20,000 per annum.[35] Three carriage and wheelwright shops. Two large tanneries. One large shoemaking establishment. Two large tanneries and shoe establishments in course of construction. In addition to the Georgia Railroad and State [Railroad] machine shops, which employ large numbers of workmen, one car-shop is now going up as a private enterprise[36]—investment, $30,000."[37]

One of the tanneries, the Atlanta Tanning Company, of which Dr. James F. Alexander and J. Chambers Orme were the proprietors, was situated in low ground on the edge of town at what is now the corner of Simpson and Orme (now Techwood Drive) streets.[38] The stream on which it stood, beginning at Walton Spring, flowing north under Grant Field, 14th Street and Collier Road, before it empties into Peachtree Creek, is still known as the Tanyard Branch.

Atlanta's first building and loan association came into being in April, 1853, when, upon petition of John F. Mims, James F. Alexander, John Glen, Joseph R. Swift and William Markham, citizens of De Kalb County, a charter was granted to the Atlanta Building and Loan Association by Edward Young Hill, Judge, Superior Court, Coweta Circuit. Attorney for the petitioners was Logan E. Bleckley, then a young Atlanta lawyer.[39]

William M. Wadley, first superintendent of the Western & Atlantic Railroad, who subsequently became president of the Central of Georgia, resigned on February 1, 1853. He was succeeded by George Yonge, for whom Yonge Street, running north from Decatur Street to Auburn Avenue, was named. That Mr. Wadley was held in high esteem by the officers and men of the W. & A. was manifested by their gift to him of a silver service.[40]

Superintendent Yonge was able to report to Governor Howell Cobb on October 10, 1853, that:

> There were thirty-two locomotives, nearly all of which "were in good condition." The rolling stock consisted of "10 passenger cars, 5 baggage cars, 91 freight cars, and 51 platform cars," but he stressed the need for an additional 176 box cars which, although still inadequate to the business of the road, "would reduce operating expenses including rental of equipment."[41] The State-owned railroad was developing into a first class carrier.

The death, during the summer of 1853, of John Nelson Bellinger, a pioneer member of the De Kalb County bar, inspired the first memorial in honor of a deceased member to be spread upon the Minutes of the Superior Court. It is couched in the ornate phraseology of the times.

> "The 'fell destroyer' has again assaulted our ranks. One of our members has fallen beneath his waving shaft. Our Brother, the Hon. John N. Bellinger, is no more. We mourn, but not as those without hope. The Citizens of De Kalb County again and again demanded his services in the State Legislature. That confidence was not misplaced. As a Legislator he was wise and patriotic. For more than twelve years he was a Justice of the Inferior Court. In this office he showed himself capable, honest, impartial and In his death the Masonic Fraternity has lost a Corinthian column of Wisdom, Beauty and Strength. The Methodist Church, of which he was a member for more than twenty years, an humble, faithful, consistent, prayerful, hoping and loving Brother. The Bar an intelligent, well informed, courteous and polite member.
>
> "The Halls of Legislature will again glow with the eloquence of others; the doors of the Hall of the mystic tie will again be thronged with votaries; the Bench will have its incumbent; the banner of the Cross will be sustained by other hands, and the charmed circle of the Coweta Bar will once again be

crowded by brotherly love. But Oh! what can we say to the widow and six orphans? Who will again preside at the family altar, who read the Bible, who train the children? Our tongues are silent. Our hearts swell and pray to the God of the widow and the father of the orphans in their behalf."

JAMES M. CALHOUN,
JOHN COLLIER,
B. H. OVERBY,
CHARLES MURPHEY,
THOMAS L. COOPER,
Committee.[42]

Judge Bellinger had long been a member of the Prospect Methodist Church, near what is now Chamblee, on the Peachtree Road. He is buried in an unmarked grave in the church cemetery.[43]

By 1853 the population of Atlanta had reached 6,000, far exceeding that of Decatur, the county seat, and it was felt by many citizens of the former that a new county should be created with Atlanta as the county seat.

As the Legislature convened at Milledgeville for the session of 1853-54, the Atlanta City Council, on November 7, 1853, passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the Citizens of Atlanta and all others favorable to the organization of a new county making Atlanta the public site be requested to meet at Davis Hall tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock P.M. and that the clerk give publicity of the same."[44]

While no report of the deliberations of this meeting are extant, the sentiment in favor of a new county must have prevailed for on Wednesday, November 23rd, the matter came before the Legislature, in which De Kalb County was represented in the Senate by John Collier of Atlanta, and in the House by Greenville Henderson of Browning's District and George K. Smith of Stone Mountain.

On the day above cited, John N. Williamson, Senator from Newton County, introduced in the Senate a bill "to lay out and organize a new county from the county of De Kalb, and for other purposes." The name of the proposed new county was left blank.[45] This bill was referred to the Select Committee on New Counties and favorably reported.[46]

On Wednesday, December 7th, upon motion of John Collier, Senator from De Kalb, the Senate took up the report of the committee. The second section having been read, the same was amended, on motion of Mr. Collier, by inserting the word "Fulton" in the blank thereof. On motion of Senator Collier, it was further amended to provide for payment of the pro rata part of the debt of De Kalb County by levy of an extra tax on citizens of the new county, and to provide for drawing the first grand and petit juries. The report as amended was agreed to and the bill read the third time and put upon its passage. The yeas and nays were called for which resulted in 44 yeas and 29 nays. So the bill was passed.[47]

This action of the State Senate was reported by the Georgia *Journal and Messenger,* at Macon, in its issue of December 21, 1853, as follows:

"FULTON COUNTY

IN SENATE,
Wednesday, Dec. 7.

"The Bill to create a new county from De Kalb, to be called 'Fulton,' was discussed during the morning—Mr. Pope, of Wilkes, opposed the creation of the new county—and very able speeches were made in favor of it by Mr. Stephens, of Hancock, Mr. Collier, of De Kalb, and Mr. Miller, of Richmond. The yeas on the passage of the bill were 44, nays, 29."

The Columbus, Georgia, *Times and Sentinel* reported the Senate action on Fulton County only two days after it was taken. This account appeared in the issue of December 9, 1853, eleven days before the new county became official, and tells us for whom it was named. It follows:

"SENATE

The bill to lay out a new county, out of that portion of De Kalb lying around Atlanta, was taken up, amended, read the third time, and after much discussion, in which Messrs. Collier, Cochran, Mosely, Miller, Stephens, McGehee, and Clarke, participated in advocacy of the bill, and Messrs. Pope, Dunnagan and Cone, in opposition to it, the bill was passed. The new county is called 'Fulton,' in honor of Robert Fulton, the inventor of the steamboat."[48]

Frederick Grant, writing from the Transportation Office of the Georgia Railroad to his brother Lemuel P. Grant in Atlanta, on December 11, 1853, observed:

". . . I notice that the new county bill from De Kalb has passed the Senate. . . ."[49]

On Saturday, December 17th, the House passed the Senate bill. The Georgia *Journal and Messenger,* on December 21st, reported:

"The bill to organize a new county from De Kalb, with Atlanta for the county site, to be called 'Fulton,' was read a third time [in the House] and passed."

The act was approved and signed by Governor Herschel V. Johnson on December 20, 1853. Fulton County was born.[50]

The Legislature had in fact created seven new counties before the end of 1853, which inspired the editors of the *Southern Recorder* to comment rather sourly on December 20th:

"The Legislature

The General Assembly of this State, has now been in session some seven or eight weeks, and yet has passed upon few, if any, measures of general importance to the welfare of the State at large. Scarcely one of the many important recommendations contained in the excellent message of Governor Cobb[51] have been carried out, nor are they likely to be for weeks to come, if ever. The State Road, Revenue, Internal Improvments, Education, and many other topics of vital importance and concernment to all classes of our fellow-citizens, have hardly been seriously considered. Quite a number of new counties, however, have been created, and others are struggling into being. The new counties already formed are Catoosa, from parts of Whitfield and Walker; Pickens, from Gilmer, Cherokee, Lumpkin and Forsyth; Worth, from Early and Dooly; Kinchafoonee,[52] from Stewart; Dougherty, from Baker; Hart, from Franklin and Elbert; and Fulton from De Kalb."

Among the provisions of the Act creating Fulton County was the following:

"That the County site of De Kalb County shall not be removed, or the public buildings transferred from the town of Decatur, the present County Site of said county, to any other place on account of laying out of said new county, but that the county site of said county, with the public buildings, be, and the same are hereby declared to be permanently and perpetually located at the town of Decatur, the present county site."[53]

Boundaries of the new County of Fulton, as originally constituted, were defined as follows:

> "Beginning on the north boundary of Fayette and Henry counties, at a point dividing said counties, running thence due north until it strikes Cobb County, making the line between the 14th, 15th, 17th, and 18th districts of the original survey, the line;[54] thence along the line of De Kalb and Cobb, till it strikes Campbell County;[55] thence along the line that divides Campbell from De Kalb county till it strikes Fayette county; thence along the northern boundary of Fayette county to the starting point.[56] Fulton is attached to the 4th Congressional District, Coweta Judicial Circuit, and First Brigade, Eleventh Division, General Militia."[57]

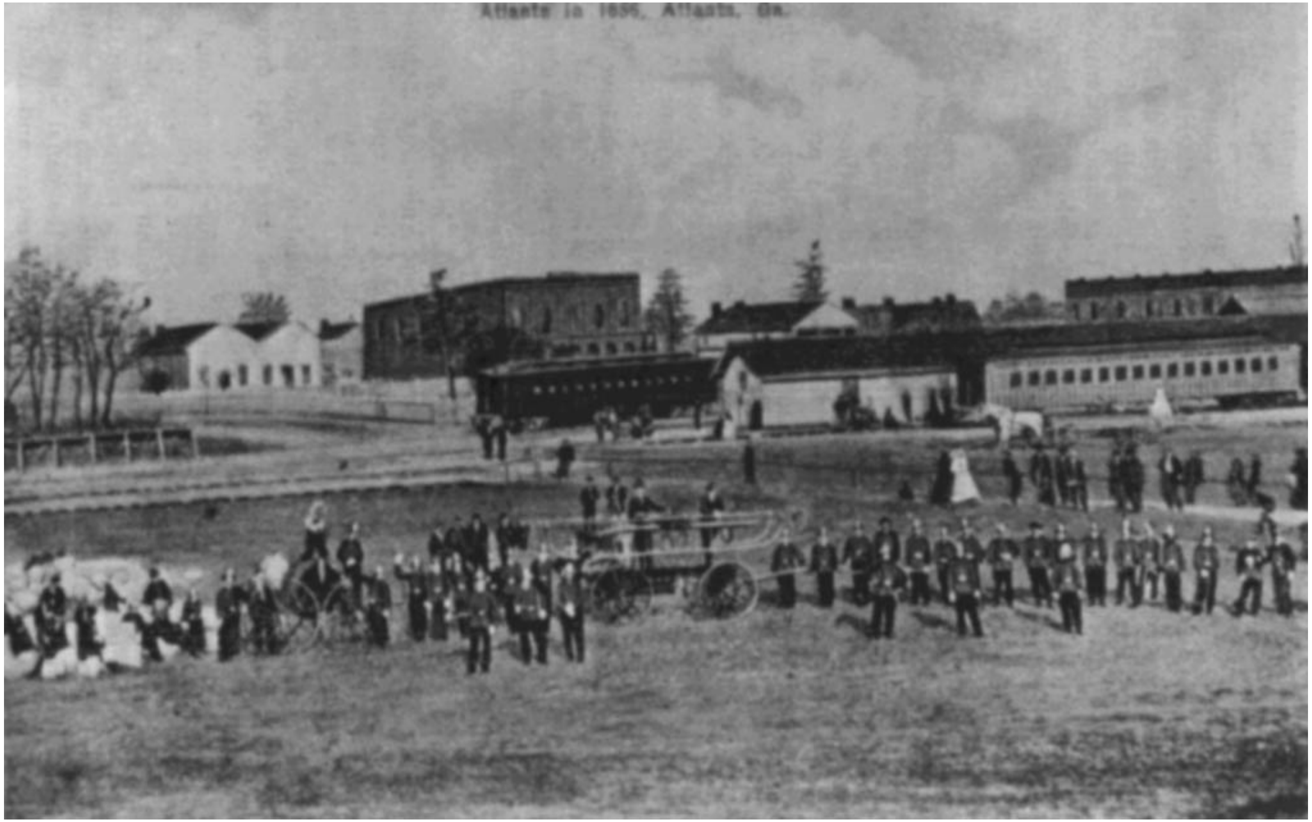
According to Jonathan Norcross, the name Fulton was suggested for the new county by Dr. N. L. Angier. He said:[58]

> ". . . I was laughed at for proposing in those early days the removal of the State Capital to this city. . . . I was laughed at when I proposed and obtained the first charter for a bank in Atlanta the bills of which, when they were circulated were laughed at and refused by the bank in Augusta and Savannah yet every one of the bills were redeemed in coin or the equivalent by George Smith, the chief stockholder. I was also laughed at when I first advocated a city charter for Atlanta, but it was obtained in due time. I was also laughed at when I proposed and obtained a charter for the Georgia Air-line Railroad, and the road was finally constructed and surely would have been sooner constructed had we had no civil war. I was also laughed at when I went to Milledgeville to procure a charter for a new county which was carried through the legislature by our representative, Colonel John Collier, and named Fulton County by Dr. N. L. Angier."

A considerable amount of discussion has taken place in recent years as to whether or not Fulton County was named for Robert Fulton, or in honor of civil engineer Hamilton Fulton. This discussion had its inception in the fact that no historian or writer upon the subject could find, or had taken the trouble to cite, contemporary evidence upon the subject. And further that Hamilton Fulton appeared to be the more logical candidate for the honor. Logic, however, is not always followed in the selection of place names, though Robert Fulton was not a wholly illogical honoree.

Hamilton Fulton's act upon the stage of Georgia's history was confined to the year 1826, when he served as chief engineer of the State and, with Wilson Lumpkin made a survey through the then Cherokee country. The object of the survey was to determine a route for either a canal or a railroad from the Tennessee River to the Chattahoochee River and to decide which of the two projects was most feasible. As the result of the survey the canal idea was abandoned. Eleven years later, when the route of the Western and Atlantic Railroad was surveyed, the survey followed substantially the route marked out by Lumpkin and Fulton in 1826.

On February 14, 1827, Hamilton Fulton wrote to Governor George M. Troup from Augusta, which letter reads in part, as follows:


Atlanta in 1856, Atlanta, Ga.

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Volunteer Fire Company of Atlanta lined up on vacant lot adjoining the city's original frame railroad passenger station, circa 1853

> "I shall be happy to know whether it is your Excellency's wish that I shall remain any longer in the service of the State than the expiring of the year for which I was originally engaged. My reason for mentioning this matter at present is that I may make my private arrangements for going to England in a comfortable season with my family or look out for a proper situation for them to retire to in the sickly months."[59]

Fulton continued in the service of the State until 1828 and during this time prepared plans for the enlargement of the Capitol at Milledgeville. He was dismissed during the administration of Governor John Clark, who succeeded Troup.[60] It is entirely probable that he returned to England, his birthplace, as intimated in the letter to Governor Troup the year before. Certainly, his name disappears completely from the annals of Georgia subsequent to 1828.

Robert Fulton on the other hand, was never identified specifically with the State of Georgia by residence or activity. His national fame dated from August 17, 1807, when he made the first trip from New York City to Albany on the Hudson River in his steamboat, *Clermont,* in 32 hours.[61] His invention, however, did have an important and epoch making connection with the State of Georgia, for on May 26, 1819, the *Savannah,* first steamboat to cross the Atlantic, left Savannah for Liverpool, making the trip in 25 days and using steam 18 days. The *Savannah* had been prudently equipped with sails.[62]

Dr. Angier, credited by Jonathan Norcross with suggesting the name for Fulton County, was himself a northern man—a native of New Hampshire. He came to Georgia long after Hamilton Fulton's day and it is doubtful if the latter's good works of 1826 were known to him. None of the individuals responsible for the origin and creation of Fulton County have left an account of their reasoning in connection with the selection of a name. Yet the reasoning seems to have been to commemorate the name of a person having to do with the development of steam as motive power, since the new county site, Atlanta, was essentially the child of this propelling force, albeit by land instead of water.

The present writer leaned to the Hamilton Fulton theory and was anxious to prove it. Hamilton deserved the honor. Indeed, many place names throughout the country commemorate the accomplishments and name of Robert Fulton. Yet an historian cannot fly in the face of contemporary evidence, and that evidence is on Robert Fulton's side. It must therefore be said that Fulton County was named in honor of Robert Fulton.[63]

Having succeeded in making their city a county seat, the citizens of Atlanta in 1853 and 1854 were stalking even larger game, the securing of the State Capitol. On November 28, 1853, a called meeting of Council was held for the purpose of taking steps to get the State Capitol. It was resolved to send six delegates to Milledgeville. They were William M. Butt, William Markham, A. G. Ware, Allen E. Johnson, J. A. Hayden and I. O. McDaniel.[64]

Anent this subject, Frederick Grant wrote to his brother Lemuel in Atlanta from Augusta, on November 27, 1853:

> ". . . The State House would be moved from Milledgeville in 24 hours if its advocates could agree upon its location, but the opposing Atlanta and Macon interests may again defeat the measure. . . ."

He wrote again on December 4th:

> ". . . I am sorry to say that the Augusta Delegation are opposed to a removal of the seat of Government—and that there is no prospect of its going to Atlanta this session. Norcross has been to Milledgeville and has *given it up.* If those in favor of a removal could *agree* upon the locality the thing would be '*done done*'."[65]

The game continued to elude the hunters.

NOTES—CHAPTER 31

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 69; "Garrett's Necrology".

[2] Reed, *Atlanta,* 69; Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *A.H.B.,* XII, 42-43.

[3] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 198; Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 46.

[4] It was reproduced in *Hopkins' Atlas,* 1878.

[5] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 38-39.

[6] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 198-199.

[7] Medora Field Perkerson, "Sixth Broad Street Bridge", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 5, 1931.

[8] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 46.

[9] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 38. The stalls were built at what is now the southeast corner of Broad Street and the railroad bridge.

[10] *Pioneers Citizens' History,* 38; Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 45.

[11] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 45.

[12] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 40.

[13] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 43.

[14] *Ibid.,* 44.

[15] Reed, *Atlanta,* 69-70.

[16] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 37-38.

[17] De Kalb County Deed Book N, 420.

[18] *Ibid.,* Book L, 109.

[19] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 44-45.

[20] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 39. Columbus Hughes, architect of Atlanta's first city hall, subsequently moved to Los Angles, California, where he died Mar. 2, 1871, "Garrett's Necrology".

[21] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 46; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 39.

[22] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 39-40.

[23] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 683; "Garrett's Necrology".

[24] Barker, "Schools and Teachers", *loc. cit.,* 32-33; Sam W. Small, "My Story of Atlanta", Chap. XLVII, *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 21, 1926; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 328.

[25] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1853, Book C.

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] 19, *Ga. Reports,* 614.

[30] "Only 3 Men Have Been Hung (*sic*) in the History of De Kalb County," *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 22, 1883.

[31] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1853, Book C.

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] Richard Peters, proprietor.

[35] Austin Leyden and associates, proprietors.

[36] Winship's.

[37] White, *Historical Collections,* 421.

[38] *Ibid.,* 422; *City Directory,* 1859.

[39] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1853, Book C.

[40] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 46.

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1853, Book C.

[43] "Garrett's Necrology".

[44] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 46.

[45] *Southern Recorder,* Nov. 29, 1853.

[46] *Ibid.,* Dec. 13, 1853.

[47] *Ga. Senate Journal,* 1853, p. 204.

[48] Georgia newspapers of the period (no files extant for Atlanta), including the *Southern Recorder* (Milledgeville), *Macon Journal & Messenger, Columbus Times & Sentinel,* etc., published the proceedings of the General Assembly almost *verbatim,* not as editorial comment, but strictly as information. The *Columbus Times & Sentinel,* in that connection, cited the origin of the names of all seven of the new counties created by the Legislature during November and December, 1853.

[49] L. P. Grant Letter Book, Atlanta Historical Society.

[50] *Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 300.

[51] Howell Cobb was succeeded as governor by Herschel V. Johnson on Nov. 9, 1853.

[52] Name changed to Webster in 1856 in honor of Daniel Webster.

[53] *Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 300.

[54] Moreland Avenue, for its entire length, both northeast and southeast, is a segment of this line. The east side of the street is in De Kalb; the west in Fulton. Its original name was "County Line Road."

[55] This line, for the most part, is the Chattahoochee River.

[56] Clayton County had not yet been created.

[57] *Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 300; *Southern Recorder,* Mar. 14, 1854.

[58] *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 5, 1896.

[59] Original on file, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[60] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 88.

[61] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 76.

[62] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 88.

[63] For interesting accounts of the Hamilton Fulton theory *Cf.* James Walter Mason, "Hamilton Fulton", quoted in Cooper, *Fulton County,* 85-88; Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Do the Records Show that Fulton County Wasn't Named for Robert Fulton?", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Oct. 13, 1935.

[64] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1853", *loc. cit.,* 46.

[65] L. P. Grant Letter Book, Alanta Historical Society.

CHAPTER 32

1854

A NUMBER of newsworthy events occupied the national stage while the new County of Fulton was being organized and experiencing its first year. On March 31, 1854, through the efforts of Commodore Matthew C. Perry, Japan abandoned its ancient policy of isolation and signed a treaty of peace, amity and commerce with the United States. Cyrus W. Field, on May 6th, organized an American company to raise funds with which to build a submarine cable across the Atlantic Ocean. In Detroit, on July 6th, a convention of Whigs and Free Soilers adopted the name Republican, while on December 28th, the Illinois Central Railroad reached Chicago.[1]

Fulton County's first slate of officers, commissioned February 15, 1854, were:

Jonas S. Smith, Sheriff.
Benjamin F. Bomar, Clerk, Superior Court.
Columbus M. Payne, Clerk, Inferior Court.
Joseph H. Mead, Ordinary.
Madison S. Yoakum, Tax Receiver.
John M. Smith, Tax Collector.
James Bartlett, Surveyor.
John K. Landers, Coroner.[2]

All served their full two-year term except the two tax officers. Yoakum was succeeded January 9, 1855, by James Caldwell, and Smith the same day by Thomas B. Daniel.[3]

As the above gentlemen took office the Macon *Journal and Messenger,* for February 15th commented upon their election:

"At the recent election in the new county of Fulton for county officers, the Republican party elected a majority of its candidates by very decided majorities, and would have elected all of them easily but from the fact that its strength was divided, in several instances, for the same office. It may be set down as a Union Republican County. The entire vote polled was 1304."

The first Inferior Court of Fulton was composed of Stephen Terry and Julius A. Hayden, commissioned December 20, 1853; Samuel Walker, James Donehoo and Cicero H. Strong, commissioned February 15, 1854, and Clark Howell, on August 5, 1854, succeeding Stephen Terry, resigned.[4]

The Superior Court first convened in the new county seat of Atlanta for the April, 1854 term, Judge Obadiah Warner, presiding, with Logan E. Bleckley as Solicitor-General.[5] It started with a full docket, 28 cases having been transferred during the term from De Kalb County.[6]

At the conclusion of the initial week of the April term, Fulton County's first grand jury submitted its presentments. Being first, they are herewith quoted in full:

"We, the Grand Jurors sworn, chosen and selected for the first week of this term, make the following presentments:

"Through committees we have examined the books of the Superior Clerk, Inferior Clerk, Ordinary and Treasurer; also the condition of Roads and

Bridges, and, the subject of Public Buildings. The Superior Clerk has opened the proper books and they are kept neatly and correctly. We take pleasure in expressing our approval of the manner in which this new officer has entered on the discharge of his duties. The Inferior Clerk has only a part of the books necessary in his office. We would recommend greater accuracy in the records in his office.

"The Ordinary has the necessary books in his office and they are kept in a neat and businesslike manner. As School Commissioner, he has sent in to us the proper receipt embodying all the necessary facts in relation to poor schools in the county. From this report it appears that 20 per cent was assessed in 1853 in De Kalb County for Poor School purposes, and that only 63 cents in the dollars was paid to the teachers of Poor Schools. In view of this fact and the apparent increase of Poor Schools, he suggested the assessment of 30 per cent on State Tax for this purpose in 1854 for the County of Fulton. We however, in view of heavy expenses, necessary to be incurred by a new county, recommend the Commissioner of Poor Schools to assess, for the purpose, 25 per cent on the State tax. We are pleased to be able to say that this officer seems to understand the duties of his office, and we heartily approve the discharge of those duties this far.

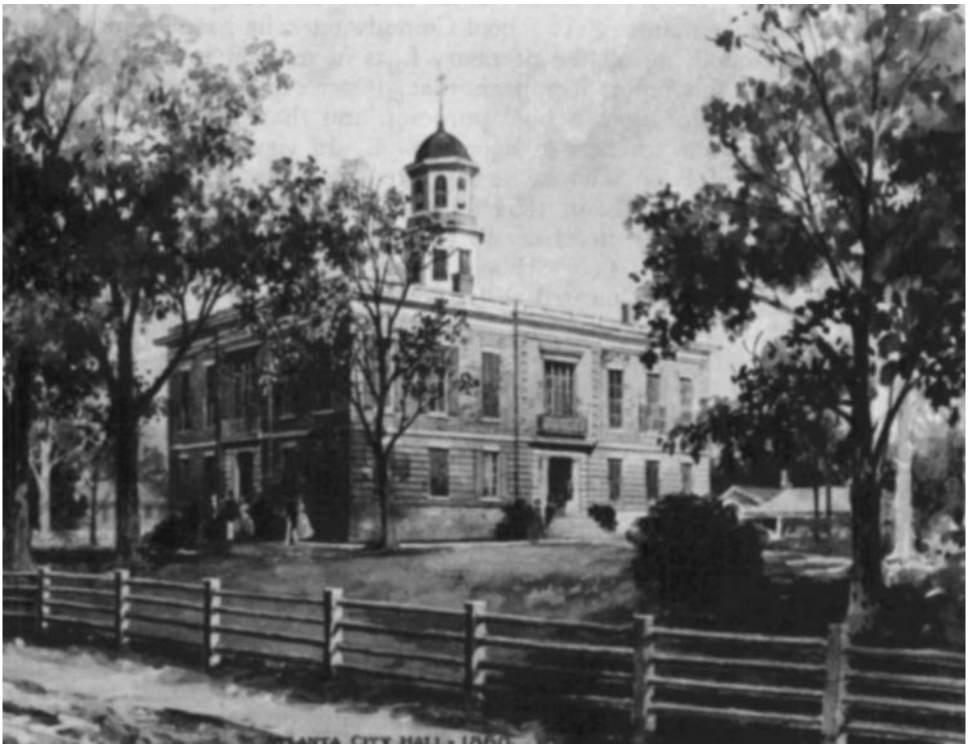
"The County Treasurer[7] has entered on the duties of his office and although the entries in his books are limited, yet so far as they go they are neat and creditable. As Commissioner of Paupers, he reports 29 Paupers in De Kalb County in 1853, 15 of whom are in the bounds of Fulton County. We recommend the Justices of the Inferior Court to assess, for the support of this class of persons, 10 per cent on the State tax.

"The roads are generally in bad condition in this county. We desire to call on the proper authorities, in good ernest, to correct this evil by seeing that the laws on the subject are rigidly executed. We believe the general understanding, before and since the creation of this county, has been that the county should occupy so much of the City Hall building now in course of erection in the City of Atlanta as may be necessary for county purposes. We doubt not the city authorities will in good faith carry out these implied pledges, and we recommend the Justices of the Inferior Court to confer in due time with the Mayor and Council of the City of Atlanta on this subject.

"A good and substantial County Jail should be built as early as circumstances will permit. We therefore recommend the Justices of the Inferior Court to procure a location and arrange to build a Jail with reasonable dispatch. Good faith requires us to pay our proportionate share of the outstanding debts of De Kalb County at the time of the division of said County. We therefore recommend the Justices of the Inferior Court to levy in the usual way, such additional taxes as may be necessary to pay this debt, to build a jail, and to defray other necessary county expenses.

"We cannot close our Presentments without congratulating the citizens of this county upon the great moral reform in our community within the last few years, yet we have cause of regret from information before our body that there are still a large number of tippling shops in our midst, and that the Sabbath is sometimes desecrated by the sale of spirituous liquors on this day, and that the baleful influences of gambling exists around in our county. We recommend increasing vigilance on the part of all officers concerned in correcting these evils.

"In taking leave of his honor, Judge Warner, we tender our thanks for his courtesy and kindness towards our body. His official duties have been discharged with promptness, impartiality and ability. Our good wishes. To the Solicitor General L. E. Bleckley, Esq., also we tender our thanks. His untiring devotion to the duties of his office, his courteous deportment, and ability in the discharge of those duties command our commendation and esteem. We request the publication of these presentments in the city papers."[8]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Combination Atlanta City Hall and Fulton County Court House, 1860. Erected 1854, after Fulton County was created out of De Kalb in Dec., 1853. Demolished 1884 to make room for present State Capitol Building

IRA O. MCDANIEL, Foreman

Albert N. Abbott
Wesley Hudson
William Head
Edmond R. Grisham
Samuel Bryant
Hubbard W. Cozart
John C. Higgins
Jacob Weaver
Jeremiah Bateman
Bartholomew Grogan
William B. Hardiman

Thomas S. Denny
William L. Higgins
Thomas F. Grubb
James M. Baber
Berryman D. Shumate
Henry T. McDaniel
Thomas F, Swilling
Micajah R. Barnes
Singleton G. Howell
George W. Collier
John K. Landers

The first Post Office to be established in Fulton County after its organization was called Nance's (*sic*) Creek. It was in operation from February 18, 1854 to May 20, 1856, with Abraham N. Clardy, who two years previously had served East Point in a similar capacity, as Postmaster. By 1854 Clardy was living in Buckhead District where the new Post Office was located.[9]

De Kalb County, now much smaller than formerly, installed some new officers on January 10, 1854. They were: Spencer P. Wright, Sheriff; John C. Ragsdale, Tax Receiver; Ezekiel A. Davis, Tax Collector, and Robert Jones, Surveyor. The other officials were re-elected.[10]

The final paragraph of the presentments of the first grand jury of De Kalb County, after the cutting off of Fulton, and for the April term, 1854, reflects a feeling of satisfaction upon the part of the mother county, that it had divested itself of a somewhat unruly kinsman.

"We are highly gratified to see such a reformation among the people of De Kalb County. Most all seem to be at peace. Harmony seems to exist. For several years past we have had several presentments each term of the Court. We think there has been less the present term than since De Kalb County was organized. We hope the time is fast approaching when we will have none; that we as good citizens, will be like man to man and Brother to Brother."

John M. Born, Foreman

Thomas J. Dean
William Shepard
George Lyon
John M. Ridling
George W. Crowley
John Holcomb
Jonathan Hadden
John Y. Flowers
Simeon Smith
John Huey
James M. Blackstock

John Bryce
Edwin A. Center
Berry Ragsdale
James F. Stubbs
James Moore
Seaborn Cochran
Thomas L. Robertson
William Crowell
Thomas Barnes
George K. Hamilton
John J. Maxey.[11]

Sanguine as were the grand jurors of De Kalb, in April as to brotherly love, the county had a murder on its hands in September which involved two pairs of brothers, David and George Armistead and Wesley and James Veal.

A revival was in progress at Rock Chapel Camp Ground in Diamond's District near Lithonia on Saturday, September 30, 1854. About 7 P. M. at dusk Joseph Bond gave out the hymn and was leading in prayer when, at a corner of the arbor, George Armistead was heard to say, "I expect some lady has cut my horse loose." Just then the Veal brothers passed and turning, replied that they did not do it. Armistead replied, "I did not say you did it, but you are none too good to do it." Wesley Veal answered, "I could do it if I wanted to." "If you do I'll whip you," said Armistead. "Do it if you want to," replied the Veals in unison. George then said to David, "Don't let us have any fuss here." Whereupon Wesley said to brother James, "Come along, they are nothing but a pack of damn dogs no how."

This remark preciptated a fight with sticks between Wesley Veal and George Armistead. James Veal then went to the assistance of his brother. Just then David Armistead stooped and stabbed James Veal in the belly. The wounded man was taken to David Anderson's house in Gwinnett County not far away, where he died the following day.[12]

The Armistead brothers were indicted by the grand jury for the October Term, 1854, of which Joseph Walker was foreman. The charge was murder.[13] David Armistead was put upon his trial at the April 1855 term of the De Kalb Superior Court and was defended by William Ezzard, Simpson & Harris, John J. Floyd and John F. Wilson. He was found guilty, as charged and was sentenced to be hanged on June 22, 1855, Judge Orville A. Bull having pronounced sentence on April 28.[14]

The case was carried to the Supreme Court of Georgia on the question of the admission of certain evidence, whereupon the judgment of the lower court was reversed.[15] The record is silent as to the final disposition of the case, though it is known that Judge Bull's sentence was never carried out. Armistead probably served a prison term.

Atlanta, in common with De Kalb and Fulton counties, held an election for officers early in 1854. In January, William M. Butt was elected mayor. His Council was composed of Jared I. Whitaker, L. C. Simpson, Paschal House, John Glen, John R. Swift, John S. Oliver, William B. Ruggles, William W. Baldwin, John Farrar and John B. Peck. Oliver resigned March 31st and was succeeded by James F. Alexander, April 18th; House resigned April 21st, and was succeeded by John W. Thompson May 6th; Baldwin quit on July 22nd. Succeeded by Eli J. Hulsey, August 14th.[16]

Officers elected by the council of 1854 were: Henry C. Holcombe, clerk; Benjamin N. Williford, marshal; E. T. Hunnicutt, deputy marshal; Oswald Houston, treasurer; G. A. Pilgrim, sexton; J. F. Trout, clerk of market, and H. L. Currier, surveyor.[17]

One of the first matters to engage the attention of Council came up on January 6, 1854, when an ordinance proposing to lay out the City of Atlanta in Wards was offered. It was adopted January 9th.[18]

Some of the other business to come before the mayor and council is shown by the minutes of council:

Jan. 20, 1854.	$150 a year voted for rent of Council Hall; also for 1853. (City Hall not yet completed.)
Jan. 16.	Clark Howell paid $110.15 for his services and interest in the new county (Fulton).
Feb. 10.	Force employed for maintenance of streets: Overseer, $30 per month; three Negroes $17, and two Negroes, $18 per month.
Feb. 10.	Resolved that Ransom, a slave belonging to the State of Georgia, be allowed to sell coffee, cakes, etc., in the passenger depot, for the accommodation of passengers.
Feb. 18.	Resolved that two lamps be erected at the railroad crossing of Whitehall Street, and that the City lamps be lighted on dark nights by the Marshals.
Feb. 24.	Ordinance Committee asked to report ordinance to prohibit the trotting or running of horses, or any animal or animals across the Bridge over the Rail Road on Market [Broad] Street.
Mar. 3.	Resolved, that the Mayor procure for the City, a Seal with suitable device.

Mar. 24.	Resolved that James A. Medlin's proposition to act as Lamp Lighter be accepted, and that the lamps be extinguished each night between twelve and one o'clock. (He lit and extinguished them for 50¢ per day.)
Mar. 24.	Corporate limits extended. C. R. Hanleiter was employed to print City Code.
Mar. 31.	The following delegates were appointed to attend the Commercial Convention at Charleston, South Carolina: I. O. McDaniel, C. H. Strong, A. H. Stokes, A. J. Brady, Jonathan Norcross, James T. Doane, T. R. Ripley, Thomas Kile, William Markham, L. J. Parr, and Robert M. Clarke.
Apr. 7.	Street Committee reported a contract to pave Alabama Street from Whitehall to just beyond Planter's Hotel [corner Pryor], with rock not less than 8″ thick, raise the lower part 2½′, and grade it, for $350, work to be completed June 20th [Atlanta's first paved street].
May 19.	A bill was presented in favor of Er Lawshe [jeweler] for a clock and City Seal, amounting to $21. Ordered paid.[19]
June 2.	The following communication was received from the Board of Health, and adopted: "The Board of Health would call the attention of Council to the pond of water on the public square, north of the passenger Depot, and recommend that it be drained or filled up so that water will not stand there. . . . Respectfully submitted, T. C. H. Wilson, Secretary G. B. Haygood, Chairman."
June 9.	Marshal still reported chasing stray hogs.
June 23.	Street Committee authorized to contract for a sufficient quantity of oak plank and stringers, and to have two tracks of plank laid down on Whitehall Street from Alabama to Mitchell streets.
July 15.	Resolution passed that the plank pavement on Whitehall, voted June 23rd, be changed to rock.
Sept. 15.	Council voted $500, and private citizens subscribed $385 for relief of suffers from yellow fever at Savannah.
Dec. 29.	A donation of books for the Holland free school was received from James L. Dunning.[20]

Down to 1854 one church for each of the various denominations in Atlanta had sufficed. During this year, however, both the Methodists and Baptists spread their wings and organized new churches, Trinity Methodist and Second Baptist, respectively.

Trinity had its inception in a Mission Sunday School organized during the spring of 1853 by Green B. Haygood in a small house on McDonough Street, now Capitol Avenue. Mr. Haygood, staunch Methodist and able young lawyer had recently moved to Atlanta from Clark County, Georgia. He was assisted in his mission activities by his wife, Martha A. Haygood, Willis Peck, and by his son, Atticus, later a Methodist Bishop, but then a lad, who was made libarian of the Sunday School.[21]

About the close of summer a lot was secured on the south side of Mitchell Street, later Capitol Square, opposite the new City Hall, still abuilding, and soon thereafter the cornerstone of the original Trinity Church was laid. In the spring of 1854 church services and Sunday school were held in the basement of the building. At this time both Wesley Chapel and Trinity were being served by Rev. John P. Duncan and Rev. James M. Austin. The church was completed in September, 1854, and was dedicated to the worship of God by Bishop James O. Andrew.[22] Trinity was to occupy its original site, through peace, war and reconstruction until 1874.[23] In 1856 it was set off as a separate charge, with Rev. Lewis J. Davies as the first regular pastor.[24]

The Second Baptist Church of Atlanta was constituted on September 1, 1854, the constituent membership, nineteen in number, having been previously dismissed from the Atlanta (later First) Baptist Church for the purpose of constituting a new church.[25]

The original nineteen members were: B. F. Bomar, I. O. McDaniel, P. E. McDaniel, J. M. Myers, T. B. Vesey, Joseph Oglesby, W. Richardson, F. H. Coleman, Mrs. Sarah E. L. Bomar, Mrs. N. B. McDaniel, Mrs. R. J. McDaniel, Mrs. R. Myers, Mrs. Frances Lipham, Mrs. M. Oglesby, Mrs. E. Richardson, Mrs. A. Wells, Mrs. Mary Bullard, Mrs. C. J. McDaniel and Mrs. E. Shurburn.[26]

None of these original members were persons of any considerable wealth, but they were consecrated to the work, and purchased a lot at the northwest corner of Washington and Mitchell streets. With such assistance as they were able to secure they erected thereon a house of worship costing $14,000. Rev. Charles M. Irwin became first pastor, but had served less than a year when domestic affliction compelled his retirement. He was succeeded by Rev. T. U. Wilkes, during whose pastorate the church building was completed and dedicated.[27]

During the pastorate of Rev. William T. Brantley, 1861 to 1871, the original church building was enlarged and thoroughly repaired at a cost of $20,000. In October, 1893, the church structure still standing on the original site was dedicated by Dr. John A. Broadus, during the pastorate of Rev. Henry McDonald.[28]

This substantial stone building still stands as the Central Baptist Church. The Second Baptist merged with the Ponce de Leon Baptist in 1933 and the united organization now occupies a handsome building at the northeast corner of Peachtree and East Wesley roads. Old Second Baptist was the mother Church of Immanuel Baptist, Woodward Avenue Baptist, Baptist Tabernacle, Central Baptist, Jones Avenue Baptist, Temple Baptist, Glenn Street Baptist, Capitol Avenue Baptist, McDonald Mission, and the Capitol View Baptist churches.[29]

The acquisition of a commodious new hotel, the building of a theater, the establishment of a medical college and the publication of two daily newspapers, all during 1854, gave tangible evidence that Atlanta was an up-and-coming town.

The hotel, erected by Jeremiah F. Trout, and called appropriately, the Trout House, was situated at the northeast corner of Decatur and Pryor streets, facing the former. Four stories high, it was the largest in the city and ranked with the "Atlanta" in service and appointments. On November 11, 1854, Aaron Gage petitioned city council for a license to operate the hotel. It remained an asset to the city, and a mecca for travelers until its destruction by the Union Army in 1864.[30]

One of the first of many East Tennesseeans to eventually settle in Atlanta was James Etheldred Williams. He was born in Granger County, Tennessee, in 1826 and came to Atlanta from Knoxville in 1851. Here he established a produce commission business at Pryor and Hunter streets, specializing in Tennessee and Western produce. His business grew rapidly, and needing more room, he purchased, in 1854, a lot on the north side of Decatur Street between Peachtree and Pryor, and proceeded with the erection of a large brick building, the second story of which was designed as a theater.[31]

The Macon, Georgia, *Journal and Messenger* took note, and in its issue of November 1, 1854, commented upon Mr. Williams' new building as follows:

"Theater in Atlanta—Mr. Crisp.

The Atlanta *Intelligencer,* among its local items, has the following:

"Among the numerous evidences of improvement now going forward in our thriving young city, we may notice a large and commodious brick building, now nearly completed on Decatur Street, the second story of which is being fitted up for a theater. The room will be ninety feet long and fifty feet wide, with a large and well arranged gallery on three sides, the whole being sufficiently large to seat upwards of 800 persons. The stage, dressing rooms, and other arrangements behind the scenes will be ample and convenient. Workmen are already engaged in painting the scenery, and the theater is expected to be finished and opened to the public with the performances of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Crisp and their talented corps of actors about the middle of next month."

The building was not finished quite so soon, but on February 16, 1855, City Council, at the solicitation of actor Crisp, granted him a theater license for the Athenaeum,, the name selected for Atlanta's first regular theater.[32]

The exterior of the new theater was distinguished by a row of white fluted columns above the ground floor, which floor the owner used for his grain and produce business. Many similar establishments were located in the neighborhood, hence evening pleasure-seekers were constantly reminded of the rural aspects which ante-bellum Atlanta revealed by day. Pungent odors from the hay and corn in the storehouses, the clatter of vehicles and iron-shod hoofs in the narrow streets, the vociferous breathing of horses and mules in stables and wagon-yards were magnified in the darkness that was relieved even in the later 1850's by only a few oil and gas lamps along the sidewalks.[33]

Most amusements that came to Atlanta in the fifties were of the itinerant variety, but Mr. Williams built the Athenaeum upon the entreaties of actor Crisp, who, with a "family troupe", had been attempting the serious drama in Parr's Hall three flights up at the southwest corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets.[34]

The City of Atlanta took three steps forward during 1854-1855 in the direction of becoming a medical center. The three steps represented the establishment of the Atlanta Medical College, the Atlanta *Medical and Surgical Journal,* and the first medical society, known as the Brotherhood of Physicians. The College and the Society were formed by Dr. John G. Westmoreland, and the Journal was started by J. G. Westmoreland and his younger brother, Dr. Willis F. Westmoreland, Sr. Also the first fee bill and Code of Ethics was published the same year. This document was signed by fourteen physicians, who might be called the Apostles of Atlanta Medicine. They were:

N. D'Alvigny, M.D.
Jas. F. Alexander, M.D.
H. A. Ramsay, M.D.
Josiah A. Flournoy, M.D.
T. C. H. Wilson, M.D.
Joshua Gilbert, M.D.
N. L. Angier, M.D.
Hayden Coe, M.D.
J. G. Westmoreland, M.D.
W. T. Grant, M.D.
B. M. Smith, M.D.
Thos. Denny, M.D.
H. Westmoreland, M.D.
T. M. Darnall, M.D.[35]

The Fee Bill of 1854 indicates that the price of a visit in the city was $1 in the daytime and $2 at night. The cost of vaginal examination "with the finger" was $2 to $5, "with the speculum", $5 to $10; amputation at hip-joint, $100 to $200; natural labor, $10, difficult labor, $15 to $40, instrumental delivery, $25 to $50.[36]

It was in 1853 that a small group of enthusiastic doctors, headed by Dr. John G. Westmoreland, conceived the idea of founding a medical school in Atlanta. After an organization had been perfected, a charter was applied for.[37] It was granted by the Legislature February 14, 1854 to L. C. Simpson, Jared I. Whitaker, John Collier, Hubbard W. Cozart, Daniel Hook, John L. Harris, William Herring, Green B. Haygood and James M. Calhoun as "Trustees of the Atlanta Medical College."[38]

On June 30, 1854, the Trustees of the Atlanta Medical College petitioned city council to use part of the City Hall for lectures. The petition was granted provided that the building be used only during the winter so as not to interfere with court sessions.[39]

One year later, on June 21, 1855, the Medical College having secured a lot at the northwest corner of Butler and then Jenkins, now Armstrong Street, the cornerstone of its new building was laid. The orator of the occasion was H. D. Beman, Esq.[40]

The first session of the college was from May to September, 1855. The following physicians constituted the first permanent faculty: M. G. Slaughter, Professor Anatomy; W. F. Westmoreland, Professor Surgery; John W. Jones, Professor Practice of Medicine; Joseph Boring, Professor Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children; J. E. DuBose, Professor of Physiology; J. J. Roberts, Professor of Chemistry; John G. Westmoreland, Dean and Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics; S. W. Anthony, Demonstrator of Anatomy, and G. T. Wilburn, Professor Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.[41]

The lectures of the first session ended on August 28, 1855, after which examinations continued for three days. Commencement exercises were held September 1st. A procession of the Board of Trustees, Faculty and students formed at Dr. Westmoreland's office and proceeded to the City Hall. There were 31 successful applicants for the degree of doctor of medicine and two were requested to repeat. Thus ended the first year of the Atlanta Medical College.[42]

Dr. John G. Westmoreland, moving spirit in the creation of the Atlanta Medical College, and for three decades a member of its faculty, was born in Jasper County, Georgia, in 1816. He was brought up on a farm and attended the Fayetteville, Georgia, Academy. After reading medicine with a neighboring country doctor, he was graduated from the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta, in 1843. He then practiced medicine in Pike County until his removal to Atlanta in 1853, where he continued to reside until his death in 1887. Dr. Westmoreland represented Fulton County in the Georgia House of

Representatives during 1857-1858, going there solely for the purpose of getting a donation from the State to help build the Atlanta Medical College. In this he succeeded to the extent of $15,000, for which the school agreed to educate free one young man from every Congressional district in the State.[43]

The reading population of Atlanta was treated to some new fare during 1854. On March 1st appeared the first issue of the Georgia *Blister and Critic,* a medical monthly founded and edited by Dr. H. A. Ramsay. It expired one year later.[44]

The *Discipline* was established in 1854 by Augustus M. Eddleman, who had bought the equipment of the *Olive Tree.* It was combined with the Atlanta *Republican* in 1855 to form the *Weekly Republican and Discipline,* which in 1857 was succeeded by the *National American.*[45]

The first issue of the *Weekly Examiner* appeared in July, 1854. It became a daily in August—Atlanta's first. The *Intelligencer* followed on a daily basis one month later, thereby providing the citizens of Atlanta with two daily newspapers.[46]

The Macon *Journal and Messenger* acknowledged the appearance of the *Examiner* in its issue of September 6, 1854:

> "The Tri-Weekly Examiner.
>
> We have received the first number of a new paper just started at Atlanta with the above title, published by William Kay, and edited by Dr. H. A. Ramsay and B. R. Daniell, Esq. The *Examiner* is in politics, State-Rights Democratic, and will sustain the present administration. We welcome it to our exchange list and trust that the enterprise of its proprieors will be properly appreciated by the public, and particularly by the people of Atlanta."

Early in May, 1854, Atlanta was privileged to entertain an ex-President of the United States. Millard Fillmore had been succeeded by Franklin Pierce early in 1853, and was making a southern tour with John Pendleton Kennedy, late Secretary of the Navy. The Macon *Journal and Messenger* reported the progress of Mr. Fillmore's trip in its issue of May 10, 1854, under the heading:

MR. FILLMORE'S MOVEMENTS.

> "Messrs. Fillmore and Kennedy left Augusta on Monday morning the 1st inst. The *Chronicle and Sentinel* of the 3rd inst. gives the following account of the incidents of their journey from Augusta to Atlanta, and their reception at the latter place:
>
> 'The Superintendent of the Georgia Rail Road very courteously placed a separate car at the disposal of the ex-president. The weather was very fine. At Greensborough, a large number of ladies and gentlemen were at the depot, waiting his arrival, and with them, the teachers and pupils of the Female College, in a body. It was with some difficulty that the committee who attended him from Augusta were able to tear him away from the congratulations of the party, especially of the young ladies, whose enthusiasm was unbounded.
>
> 'At Madison, Social Circle (where the party dined), Covington, Stone Mountain and Decatur, numerous bodies of citizens were assembled, who were introduced, as far as time allowed, and exchanged cordial greetings with the ex-president.
>
> 'At the Stone Mountain, a Committee met him from Atlanta.

'At Atlanta there was a novel and most striking reception. A large number of locomotives were ready, with their steam up, and as the Engineer of the Augusta train gave the signal, they all opened their valves at once, and whistled out such a welcome as no mortal man ever heard before. The depot presented a crowded mass of people, a large portion of whom were of the gentler sex, and the shouts with which they received their honored guest, were long and deafening. Making way with some difficulty through the crowd, Mr. Fillmore and his party were conducted to a very handsomely fitted up platform, where James M. Calhoun, Esq., received the ex-president and Mr. Kennedy in a very neat and appropriate address, to which each of them made a happy reply, interrupted by loud and repeated applause.

'After the ceremony, Mr. Fillmore and Mr. Kennedy were conducted to the Atlanta Hotel, where they were to receive the visits of the citizens, and where a ball was to be given last evening. Mr. Fillmore had intended to go on to Nashville yesterday, but was persuaded to remain over one day. The Augusta Committee was obliged to leave the platform and take the cars immediately, to return home that night; but it is understood that, at the Hotel, Mr. Fillmore was received by an array of some fifty very young ladies, uniformly dressed in white, each with a beautiful bouquet. Today he is probably on the State Road to Chattanooga, and he seems to have been exceedingly gratified with what he has seen in Georgia, and the cordiality of his reception by her citizens. He reached Chattanooga on the 4th inst'."

A week later, on May 17th, the *Journal and Messenger* added a postscript to the Fillmore visit under a by-line reading "Fillmore and Long."

"During the recent visit of Ex-President Fillmore to Atlanta, says the *Intelligencer,* among the servants who waited upon him at the Atlanta Hotel, was the famous Henry Long, who it will be remembered, was the first fugitive slave delivered up under the act of 1850, and at whose trial in New York, there was raised so great an excitement. Henry was considerably elated at the idea of serving his Excellency."

The late C. R. Hanleiter of Atlanta, writing in 1892 relative to the Fillmore visit, said:

". . . After a brief address of welcome by the Mayor [William M. Butt] and Mr. Fillmore's reply, he was escorted to Dr. Thompson's hotel, where he was introduced to the people. . . . This ceremony over, he was taken in charge by a committee of citizens and driven over the city, and in the afternoon he was entertained at the hotel at one of the largest and best appointed banquets ever, up to that time, given in upper Georgia. . . . In the evening a reception was held, at which the best citizens, including ladies, appeared. . . . The ball given in honor of Mr. Fillmore was opened by Miss Fannie Butt, daughter of the Mayor, and the Mayor of Rome, Georgia."[47]

As an aftermath to the Fillmore visit, City Council took the following action on May 12, 1854:

"The Finance Committee, to whom was referred the bills of J. T. Doane and Joseph Winship for divers articles and materials furnished the Fillmore Reception Committee, as the payment of the expenses of said reception was vouched for by the Mayor, report the same to be paid."[48]

One of the first native-born Irishmen to settle permanently in De Kalb County was James Moore (1798-1856). He came to America in 1825 and settled in Abbeville District, South Carolina, where he engaged in linen manufacturing and farming. In 1837, with his wife Ann and several children, including a son Thomas, aged 9, he came to Georgia and settled near South River, six miles southeast of the future city of Atlanta, in what was then Panthersville, now Mills Militia District. Here James Moore set up and operated a sash-sawmill on Intrenchment Creek. He, his wife, and several of their children are buried in the Cool Spring (also known as Marvin) Cemetery just off Boulder Crest Drive, formerly East McDonough Road, beyond East Atlanta.[49]

Son Thomas Moore was married in 1848 to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Martin DeFoor, a pioneer settler of the Standing Peachtree neighborhood. DeFoor operated the old Montgomery Ferry across the Chattohoochee, the name of which had been changed to DeFoor's Ferry. He also owned much of the former Montgomery land. About two years after his marriage, Thomas Moore moved from the section where his father had settled, to the present Bolton neighborhood, and soon thereafter acquired by purchase, jointly with Henry F. Jeffries,[50] the 202½ acres comprising Land Lot #220 of the 17th District for $1500.[51]

It was upon this land, in August, 1854, that Thomas Moore erected a grist mill on Peachtree Creek a short distance above the confluence of Nancy Creek.[52] Moore's Mill was burned in 1861 by some political hot heads but was rebuilt the same year. It continued in operation until 1901, when the site was rendered untenable for mill use by the establishment of a city sewage disposal plant upstream.[53] Like its upstream neighbor Howell's Mill, the name of Moore's Mill continues in use as the designation of a well known northside road, and is in fact a segment of the original Peachtree Road, leading from old Fort Daniel at Hog Mountain in Gwinnett County to Fort Gilmer at the Standing Peachtree. (See Section II.)

Thomas Moore became one of Fulton County's most substantial and valued citizens. When the City waterworks was established on the Chattahoochee River in 1892 he donated a right of way for mains through his extensive land holdings. He was a prominent member of the Mt. Vernon Methodist Church on Marietta Road and an organizer of the World's International Sunday School Conventions. On April 2, 1914, Mr. Moore was thrown from his buggy near Bolton when a Marietta interurban car frightened his horse, and died of his injuries the following day, age 86. His immediate survivors were his second wife and three grandsons, Virlyn B., Thomas W., and James M. Moore. Thomas Moore now rests in West View Cemetery, but his old homeplace still stands at the intersection of DeFoor Ferry Road and Chattahoochee Avenue. His first wife, Elizabeth DeFoor, who died in 1874, is buried in the Montgomery Family Cemetery near Bolton.[54]

Work on Atlanta's new City Hall continued through 1854 until October, when it was completed. Meanwhile its construction was the subject of comment by various grand juries. That for the second week of the April term, observed:

> ". . . We are glad to see the City Hall in Atlanta progressing to completion, and hope it will be ready to accommodate the Superior Court by the fall term. . . ."
>
> LEWIS LAWSHE, Foreman.[55]

The jury for the first week of the October term commented:

". . . We have had under consideration the subject of public buildings and would remark in regard to the Court-House, which comprises a part of the City Hall, that it reflects great credit on the city authority and especially on Mr. C. A. Hughes, the architect of the same. We feel very sensibly the importance of having a jail and hope the Inferior Court will proceed to have one erected as speedily as possible. We recommend also that it be made on a substantial plan and consistent with the necessities of the county. . . ."

JONATHAN NORCROSS, Foreman.[56]

The jury for the second week of the same term also offered congratulations:

". . . We feel it our duty to commend the city authorities of Atlanta for the court room and other necessary rooms in the City Hall building tendered to the county. We trust this liberality will be duly appreciated by the citizens of this county. The character and stile (*sic*) of the building reflects credit on the city authorities. . . ."

MARAT MEGEE, Foreman.[57]

The agreement between the City and County, whereby the latter was granted permission to use part of the City Hall had been consummated on May 12, 1854, when it was approved by Council.[58] As a matter of fact space in the building was in brisk demand. As previously noted, the Atlanta Medical College had been granted use of the building for lectures. On October 19, 1854, the congregation of the newly organized Second Baptist Church asked, and was granted permission to worship in the City Hall.[59]

Completion of the building was celebrated, on October 17th, by a fancy dress ball.[60] The October term of the Fulton Superior Court, Judge Obadiah Warner, presiding, met, on schedule, in the recently finished edifice.[61]

The new seat of Atlanta's government and capitol of Fulton County was indeed a credit to the community. It was of brick construction and measured 50 by 70 feet. Above the second story was a cupola, fairly typical of the prevalent style in public building architecture. The building escaped destruction during the War Between the States and stood until 1884, when it was demolished to make way for the present State Capitol Building, begun that year.

Fulton County's first grand jury had hardly finished congratulating the citizens of the county upon the great moral reform in the community, when two murders, the latter particularly brutal, occurred on April 29th and July 4, 1854, respectively, both on the road to the Humphries settlement at White Hall.

First was the Haynes-Griggs affair, wherein Dennis E. Haynes, a lawyer, shot and killed James Griggs with a shotgun. The sheriff had recently put Haynes into possession of the house Griggs and his family were occupying between the Newnan Road (Peters Street) and the M. & W. R. R. tracks. However, Haynes' efforts to eject Griggs, who had a reputation as a violent man, were unavailing. On the night of April 29th, Haynes, with two companions, came into Griggs' yard to draw a bucket of water from the well. The well was locked, but Haynes knocked the lock off with a hatchet and was trying to get the rope on the windlass, when Griggs emerged from the house and began his attack by throwing rocks at the intruders. Haynes' companions ran off the lot, whereupon Griggs approached the well cursing and flourishing a hickory stick. Haynes threatened to shoot if Griggs continued his advance. The threat was disregarded and Griggs was shot in the left side and killed.[62]

Haynes was indicted for murder and put on trial in Fulton Superior Court in October, 1854, being represented by attorneys B. H. Overby and A. W. Hammond. He was found guilty, although the jury, speaking through Foreman Reuben Haynes, [no kin] recommended mercy. The Court, Judge Obadiah Warner, disregarded the recommendation and sentenced Haynes to be hanged on December 22, 1854.[63] The case went to the Supreme Court on a bill of exceptions, and where a new trial was granted.[64] The final outcome appears not of record, though it is certain that Haynes was never hanged.

The July 4th affair happened on the race track[65] near Asa Humphries'[66] grocery and not far from the old White Hall settlement. Sidney Kent, a youth of about 16, weighing perhaps 100 pounds, was set upon by five men, Asa and John Humphries, William Robertson, Cann Costley and Dink Carlton. Kent was accused by Costley of rocking his house sometime before, Upon a denial being made, something of a free for all fight followed, during which Kent was struck with a stick, stabbed by Costley, and stamped upon by Asa Humphries, a man weighing some 200 pounds. From all of which Kent died on July 31st.[67]

All five of young Kent's assailants were indicted for murder on October 4, 1854. Costley was put upon his trial separately in April, 1855; was found guilty without a recommendation of mercy, and was, on October 19th, sentenced to be hanged on December 14th following. The sentence of the Superior Court was suspended on a Writ of Error and the case carried to the Supreme Court of Georgia, where the judgment of the former was affirmed.[68] In some manner Costley escaped the death penalty, but presumably served a prison term.

Early in 1856 the Humphries brothers before being brought to trial, escaped from the De Kalb County jail.[69] One of them, while in the prison yard, concealed a crowbar in his pants leg, with which instrument the escape was made possible. Neither was ever captured or heard from again. Atlanta was fortunate to be rid of the two black sheep of the otherwise reputable family of Charner Humphries.

The Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April, 1856 term commented upon the jail break in the following language:

> "For want of time and opportunity we have not endeavored to inquire into the matter of the escape of prisoners sent from this county to De Kalb County jail. We would therefore respectfully suggest to the next grand jury for this term that they inquire into the matter, and if they find the jail in De Kalb County insecure, or that there has been culpable neglect on the part of the jailor there, that they should at least recommend the confinement of prisoners from this county in the jail of some other contiguous county.[70]
>
> William W. Roark, Foreman."

Upon the death of Alexander F. Luckie in August, 1854, Atlanta lost one of its best pioneer citizens. He was a native Georgian, living for many years in Newton County, which he represented in the lower branch of the General Assembly in 1834. Mr. Luckie moved to Atlanta during early 1847,[71] and on May 19th of that year purchased from Lochlin Johnson, the north half of Land Lot 50 of the 14th District.[72] Present boundaries of this tract of 101¼ acres are North Avenue on the North, Pine Street on the South; Bedford Place on the East, and West Peachtree Street on the West.

Luckie erected, first a log house, and later a two-story frame residence, on the west side of Peachtree Street [then road], at the present site of the Doctor's Building parking lot. His primary occupation was that of a farmer. He was an organizer, in 1847, of Atlanta's first Sunday school, known as the Atlanta Union Sabbath School, and beginning the following year, served as one of the first four ruling elders of the Atlanta [later First] Presbyterian Church. Upon his death at the age of 56, Mr. Luckie was buried in his family cemetery on the present site of the Crawford W. Long Memorial Hospital. Growth of the city necessitated the removal of this cemetery about 1885, and the bodies were removed to Oakland. Here Alexander F. Luckie, pioneer citizen, rests in an unmarked grave, with Luckie Street beginning in downtown Atlanta as a tangible memorial to his memory.[73]

During early 1854, Atlanta acquired a new and commodious brick railroad passenger depot, and a new line, the Georgia Western was chartered.

The original wooden passenger shed on the State Square, which had sufficed through the early pioneer days had, by 1852, become sorely inadequate. It inspired the following comment from William M. Wadley, General Superintendent of the Western and Atlantic, on September 30, 1852:[74]

> ". . . I found the Depot Buildings at both ends of the Road, and many of the Ware-Houses at Way-Stations, entirely inadequate for our business. At this city, [Atlanta] I have purchased a site and commenced Buildings and Tracks on a scale sufficiently large to accommodate any business that will probably offer for some years to come, and upon a plan which is susceptible of being enlarged to a considerable extent.
>
> "It is proposed by the Officers of the different Railroads terminating at this place, to build a commodious Passenger Depot on what is known as the State Square. This can only be done after all the present buildings are removed. Such a Depot is very much needed; and as all parties will expect certain privileges, I propose a convention of all interested, at this place, at as early a day as practicable, to agree upon the details of the contract and Plan of the Building. . . .
>
> "All these improvements are of a permanent and substantial character—such, I flatter myself, as will prove to be, not only useful ornaments to the Road, but monuments to the Enterprise and Liberality of the People of Georgia.
>
> "All of which is respectfully submitted,
>
> William M. Wadley,
> General Superintendent."

The budget of the Western and Atlantic for 1853 included an appropriation for a "Passenger House" in Atlanta. Plans were drawn by Edward A. Vincent,[75] and construction was begun late in 1852. Building continued through 1853 and Atlanta's "commodious passenger depot" was completed late that year or early in 1854.[76] Overall dimensions of this architecturally pleasing brick depot were 100 x 300 feet. The usual facilities including baggage rooms, ticket offices, "Ladies Waiting Saloon", "Gents Waiting Saloon", "Refreshment Saloon", etc., extended down the center of the building for a distance of 176 feet. The station was served by four tracks, one for each of the roads entering the city, the rooms enumerated above being flanked upon either side by two tracks. It served the city and the railroads well until its destruction by the Federal Army in November, 1864.

About the time the new depot was put in service another line, the Georgia Western Rail Road Company, was chartered by the Legislature on February 18, 1854.[77] Most of the incorporators were Atlantans: William Markham, Lemuel P. Grant, Richard Peters, Ira O. McDaniel, Ambrose B. Forsyth, John F. Mims, Terrence Doonan, Julius A. Hayden, Joseph Thompson, Green B. Haygood, James M. Calhoun, William P. Nichols, James E. Williams, James F. Alexander, B. H. Overby, Thomas A. Warwick, A. J. Brady, Daniel Hook, John Jones, Abel H. Harrison, and Abbot M. McWhorter.[78]

Capital stock of the railroad-to-be, was fixed at $1,000,000, the City of Atlanta subscribing $300,000 and the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company $250,000.[79] The Company was given the power and authority to survey, lay out and construct a railroad from the City of Atlanta, through or near Villa-Rica or Carrollton, in Carroll County, and beyond westwardly to the Alabama line, in the direction of Jacksonville or Tuscaloosa.[80]

While the value of coal and iron in Alabama was little thought of at this time, James A. Grant, a competent engineer and brother of L. P. Grant, was put on the line, and preliminary surveys were run through. Little else was accomplished by the time the war came on in 1861 and the project languished.[81] Its revival after the war and subsequent development as the Southern Railway's main line from Atlanta to Birmingham, will be covered in a later chapter. The ambition of Atlanta's leaders during the 1850's knew no bounds.

The first wreck resulting fatally for an Atlanta engine crew occurred on the Georgia Railroad early in October, 1854. It was reported by the Columbus *Times and Sentinel* for October 3rd, as follows:

"Accident on Georgia R. R.
ROBERT SPENCER

A collision occurred a few nights ago below Camak, on the Georgia Road between the up passenger and the down freight train, by which the engineer, Robert Spencer, and the fireman, Charles Marsh, on the up train, were instantly killed; and Harry Dorsey, engineer and Thomas Griffin, the fireman on the down train, and John Baldwin, a machinist in the company's service, and a Negro belonging to one of the trains were seriously injured. The freight train, Francis Golding, conductor, was running out of time. The accident happened in a deep cut, and while no passengers were injured, the locomotives 'Liberty' and 'B. H. Warren' are perfect wrecks."

Steam locomotives running on steel rails have captured the imagination and interest of countless individuals since the day the "Best Friend", of the South Carolina Railroad first turned a wheel in 1830. Today, Atlanta railfans will not only stop, but go out of their way to watch such examples of the engine builder's art as Southern's 1401, Atlanta and West Point's 290, N. C. & St. L.'s 577, etc. But the local locomotive enthusiast of 1854, instead of watching a parade of numbered engines, could look at and listen to, named motive power. Here is the Western and Atlantic's roster of that day—all wood burners:[82]

Name of Engine	Type	When Put Upon the Road	Builder
Florida	6-wheel-single drivers	Dec. 1842	M. W. Baldwin
Chattanooga	6-wheel connected engine	Jan. 1847	M. W. Baldwin
Tuscaloosa	6-wheel connected engine	Mar. 1847	M. W. Baldwin
Connasauga	6-wheel connected engine	Feb. 1847	M. W. Baldwin
Monterey	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Nov. 1847	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
Chickamauga	6-wheel connected engine	May 1848	M. W. Baldwin
Talulah	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	May 1848	M. W. Baldwin
Yonah	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Apr. 1849	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
Toccoa	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Aug. 1849	Norris & Brothers
Chattoogata	6-wheel connected engine	Apr. 1850	M. W. Baldwin
Walden	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	May 1850	M. W. Baldwin
Kennesaw	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	May 1850	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
Chattahoochee	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1851	M. W. Baldwin
Oconee	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1852	M. W. Baldwin
Carrahee	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1852	M. W. Baldwin
Etowah	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Feb. 1852	Norris & Brothers
Lookout	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Mar. 1852	Norris & Brothers
Coosawattee	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Mar. 1852	Norris & Brothers
North Carolina	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	June 1852	M. W. Baldwin
New Jersey	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1852	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
South Carolina	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1852	M. W. Baldwin
Indiana	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1852	M. W. Baldwin
New Hampshire	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1852	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.
Pennsylvania	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Dec. 1852	Norris & Brothers
Georgia	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Norris & Brothers
Louisiana	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Norris & Brothers
Delaware	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Anderson & Souther
Mazeppa	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
Corasir	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
New York	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Jan. 1853	Rogers, Ketchum & Grosvenor
Flying Nelly	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Mar. 1853	Anderson & Souther
Bobuel	8-wheel, 4 connected engine	Feb. 1853	Anderson & Souther

It is interesting to note, additionally to the above report, that the "Florida", first locomotive to operate out of the future City of Atlanta, back in 1842, had, by this time, been relegated to switching service.[83] It was scrapped in 1861.[84]

It must have been fun in 1854 to walk down to Mr. Vincent's new brick depot and watch the "Corsair" pull in with the mail from Chattanooga, or to go out to Boltonville and wait for the "Flying Nelly" to round the river bridge curve amid a shower of wood sparks at the head of the northbound passenger.

Statistically, Fulton County presented the following picture, as of August, 1854, nearly nine months after its creation.[85]

Professional Men	44
Dentists	3
Daguerrean Artists	1
Free Persons of Color	7
Slaves permitted to hire their time	2
Poor School Children	1,250
Aggregate Value of Lands	$859,777
Aggregate Value of Town Property	$1,627,775
Number of Slaves	1,856½
Aggregate Value of Slaves	$957,492
Aggregate Value of Whole Property	$3,445,144

During 1854 the citizens of Atlanta continued their efforts to have the Capital removed from Milledgeville to Atlanta. The question was voted upon in a General Election held that year, and resulted in the following vote:

"No removal" (from Milledgeville)	49,781
To Atlanta	29,337
To Macon	3,802

It was fourteen years before the recently constituted county seat of Fulton could claim the honor of being also the Capital of the State.[86]

NOTES—CHAPTER 32

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 123-124.

[2] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1854, Book A.

[6] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1854, Book C.

[7] Robert M. Clarke.

[8] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1854, Book A.

[9] Record of Postmasters, Fulton; Fulton County Tax Digest, 1854.

[10] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[11] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1854, Book C.

[12] *Ibid.,* Apr. term, 1855, testimony of witnesses.

[13] *Ibid.,* Oct., term, 1854.

[14] *Ibid.,* Apr., term, 1855.

[15] 18 *Ga. Reports,* 704.

[16] *Annual Reports, Atlanta,* 1899, p. 578.

[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 71.

[18] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1854", *A.H.B.,* XIII, 155. The city was divided into five wards during 1854. Councilmen were first elected to represent specific wards, two each, in Jan., 1855.

[19] This was Atlanta's first city seal, depicting a steam railway locomotive within a circle. *Cf.* title page *Williams' Atlanta Directory,* 1859.

[20] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1854", *loc. cit.,* 155; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 40-44.

[21] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* July 27, 1867; "Garrett's Necrology".

[22] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* July 27, 1867.

[23] City Directories, 1870-1874; Reed, *Atlanta,* 380.

[24] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* July 27, 1867.

[25] M. L. Brittain, *Semi-Centennial History of the Second Baptist Church, Atlanta, Georgia* (Atlanta, 1904), 9. Hereafter cited as Brittain, *Second Baptist Church.*

[26] *Ibid.,* 94.

[27] *Ibid.,* 9.

[28] *Ibid.,* 11.

[29] Kurtz, "Atlanta's Pioneer Churches and Who Built Them", *loc. cit.*

[30] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 44, 127; E. Y. Clarke, *Atlanta Illustrated* (3rd. ed., Atlanta, 1881), 47. Hereafter cited as Clarke, *Atlanta, 1881.*

[31] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 241-242.

[32] *Ibid.,* 45.

[33] Meta Barker, "Some High Lights of the Old Atlanta Stage", *A.H.B.,* II (Jan., 1928), 33.

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] Frank K. Boland, M.D., "Atlanta's First Physician", *A.H.B.,* VII (June, 1933), 17-18.

[36] Frank K. Boland, M.D., "Early History of Medicine in Atlanta", *A.H.B.,* XXIII (Oct., 1940), 247.

[37] F. Phinizy Calhoun, A.B., M.D., "The Founding and the Early History of the Atlanta Medical College", *G.H.Q.* (Mar. 1925), 35-54.

[38] *Ga. Laws,* 1854, p. 501.

[39] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 43.

[40] Calhoun, "Atlanta Medical College", *loc. cit.,* 39.

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] *Ibid.,* 40.

[43] *Ibid.*, 37; "Garrett's Necrology".

[44] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers", 21.

[45] *Ibid.*

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 178-179.

[48] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1854", *loc. cit.,* 158.

[49] LaFayette Jeffries, MS Diary, *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[50] Father of the late Fulton County Ordinary, Thomas H. Jeffries.

[51] LaFayette Jeffries, MS Diary, *loc. cit.*

[52] *Ibid.* Phillips's Map of Fulton County, 1872.

[53] LaFayette Jeffries, MS Diary, *loc. cit.*

[54] Obituary, *Atlanta Constitution;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[55] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1854, Book A.

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] *Ibid.*

[58] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 42.

[59] *Ibid.,* 43.

[60] *Ibid.*

[61] *Columbus, (Ga.) Times & Sentinel,* Oct. 10, 1854.

[62] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1854, Book A.

[63] *Ibid.*

[64] 17 *Ga. Reports,* 465.

[65] The present Chapel Street, SW., in Atlanta, once led to the old race track, and was originally called Race Track Street.

[66] A son of Charner and brother of John Humphries, who, the year before, shot and killed Elisha Tiller in the same neighborhood.

[67] 19 *Ga. Reports,* 614.

[68] *Ibid.;* Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1855, Book A.

[69] The Fulton County jail had not been completed.

[70] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1856, Book A.

[71] "Garrett's Necrology".

[72] Fulton County Deed Book A, 136.

[73] "Garrett's Necrology".

[74] *Reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the W. & A. R. R. to Gov. Howell Cobb, Sept. 30, 1852* (Atlanta, 1852).

[75] On file, Atlanta Historical Society.

[76] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 234-235, 252.

[77] *Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 440.

[78] *Ibid.*

[79] *Ibid.,* 441; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 202.

[80] *Ga. Laws,* 1853-1854, p. 442.

[81] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 202.

[82] *Reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Western and Atlantic Rail Road to Gov. Howell Cobb, Sept., 1853* (Atlanta, 1853).

[83] *Ibid.*

[84] Last carried in the *Master Mechanic's Report* of that year, and designated, "condemned."

[85] *A.H.B.,* III (May, 1930), 78.

[86] Stiles A. Martin, *The State Capitol, A Great Asset to Atlanta* (Atlanta, 1948), 8.

CHAPTER 33

1855

'TWAS in fifty-five that the Deacon's durable and famous "One-Hoss-Shay," after running a hundred years to the day, went to pieces all at once,—"all at once, and nothing first,—just as bubbles do when they burst, dumping the parson out on a rock, at half-past nine by the meetin'-house clock."[1]

It was also in 1855 that Septimus Winner, of Philadelphia, wrote the words and music of *Listen to the Mocking Bird,* a song destined in a few years to become a favorite with Confederate soldiers, and to hold its place, along with the melodies of Stephen Foster, in the hearts of the American people. Local tradition claims that it was to this tune that the volunteers of Mobile marched off to war in '61.[2]

The City of Atlanta experienced a warm city election on January 15, 1855, the first of record in which fraud was claimed by the losers. It was also the first time the Know Nothing party[3] had cut any figure in local politics. Allison Nelson, the Democratic candidate defeated Ira O. McDaniel, the Know Nothing standard-bearer, by the narrow margin of 425 to 415 votes. The vote for members of Council was also exceedingly close, two being elected for each of the five newly created wards of the city.[4] Following is the result, the two contestants from each ward receiving the highest and next to highest number of votes, having been elected:

First Ward: W. W. Baldwin, 429; U. L. Wright, 417; B. O. Jones, 416; Ezra Andrews, 398.

Second Ward: T. M. Darnall, 424; C. H. Strong, 415; L. C. Simpson, 402; J. L. Dunning, 370.

Third Ward: John Farrar, 439; J. W. Thompson, 430; A. W. Owen, 398; R. Crawford, 387.

Fourth Ward: William Barnes, 449; John Glen, 441; Samuel Dean, 401; G. W. Adair, 381.

Fifth Ward: Thomas Kile, 425; C. Powell, 425; W. R. Venable, 419; J. W. Manning, 396.[5]

John Glen became mayor on July 20, 1855, succeeding Allison Nelson, resigned. Thomas C. H. Wilson succeeded to Glen's council seat on August 3rd. John Farrar resigned from council on February 23rd and was succeeded by Robert M. Clarke, March 10, 1855.[6]

The Democrats regarded the election as a great victory over the Know Nothings, and thought that it would probably put an end to Know Nothingism in Atlanta. The Know Nothings themselves, however, seemed to take a different view of the situation. They claimed to have been defeated by fraud, and on January 17th in a communication addressed to Allison Nelson, the successful candidate for mayor, they stated they could prove that gross frauds had been committed at the election. They said that non-residents, aliens and others, who had no right to vote, had voted, and that if all the fraudulent votes were thrown out the result of the election would be that they themselves would be shown to have been elected to the offices out of which they had been counted. They said that they believed that no one would hold office by fraud, and they therefore requested the mayor-elect to appoint a day within that month upon which there might be an investigation, or that he would submit the question over again to the people. This communication was signed by I. O. McDaniel, B. O. Jones, E. Andrews, L. C. Simpson, A. W. Owen, R. Crawford, S. Dean, G. W. Adair, W. R. Venable and J. W. Manning.[7]

In this "extraordinary note," as it was called in the reply, the successful candidates responded in substance as follows:

"We find this document signed by those who comprised the ticket of the American or Know Nothing party, with the important exception of Mr. C. H. Strong, who was the only one on that ticket who was elected. If you could do what you propose, establish fraud, etc., in the election, why did you not prove it before the managers of the election, when the election was in progress? It certainly was not owing to your want of vigilance, for you had sufficient challengers at their posts all through the day, and if you failed to convince the managers then of the illegality of the votes, it is but reasonable to suppose that a new attempt would likewise fail. It would also be the cause of an excitement which could be but suicidal to the interests of the city, or at least to its peace and quiet, etc."

The respondents then charged that the defeated party polled a large number of illegal votes, and that they could prove it, and they then closed their reply in the following language:

"Gentlemen, time and reflection will soothe your feelings, and teach you the important lesson of resignation to the will of the people. We are, respectfully yours, A. Nelson, W. W. Baldwin, W. Barnes, U. L. Wright, Thomas Kile, T. M. Darnall, J. W. Thompson, J. Farrar."[8]

The election stood.

Council elected the following officers to serve during the year: Marshal, Ben N. Williford; deputies, Willis Carlisle and E. T. Hunnicutt; treasurer, Thomas N. Cox; sexton, G. A. Pilgrim.[9]

Early in February the fire company was granted the use of City Hall for a ball to be held on the 22nd in honor of George Washington's birthday, while on March 2nd, the "Irish Volunteers" were granted use of the building for O. A. Lochrane to make a speech March 17th in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.[10]

The new City Hall and Court House was becoming the social center of the town.

Some of the other business to engage the attention of Council for 1855 is indicated by the Minutes of that body:

March 16—A contract was agreed to between City Council and the State Agricultural Society, by which a fair was to be held in Atlanta during September, 1855, and annually thereafter, when $5000 has been expended by the city in improvements on grounds.

March 30—Ten acres of land adjoining the Fair Grounds was bought of William Kay for $5000.

May 4—A powder magazine lot was bought of J. F. Leonard.

NOTE: The City Powder Magazine, wherein all explosives brought into the city were required by law to be stored, was built on the large and then isolated tract of land on the west side of Davis Street, N. W., between Foundry and Rock Streets. The Davis Street School, formerly white, now colored, has long occupied this site. The original road to the Powder Magazine was via the present Magnolia Street, until 1885, known as Magazine Street.[11]

May 18—Council paid E. R. Aldridge $799 for fencing City Hall lot. James McDonough, J. A. Reeves and N. L. Angier elected City Assessors by Council.

July 6—The Atlanta Republican, J. Norcross, proprietor, contracted with Council to publish its proceedings at $25 per annum.

Aug. 10—I. O. McDaniel petitioned Council for use of City Hall during State Fair for sacred concerts.

Sept. 7—Eight assistant marshals and twelve extra policemen were ordered to be placed on duty during the fair.[12]

The resignation of Mayor Allison Nelson on July 6, 1855, attracted considerable attention. On that evening, a Friday, two young men were taken before the mayor on a charge of disturbing the peace by quarreling and using profane language in the streets. All the witnesses on both sides testified to the fact, and one of the young men, it was proven, had mutilated a sign. Under an appropriate city ordinance Mayor Nelson had imposed upon one of the young men a fine of $15, and upon the other, who had mutilated the sign, a fine of $20. An appeal was taken in both cases, and Council reduced the fine of the first man from $15 to $5, and in the case of the other, remitted the fine altogether. His Honor, considering it useless for him to try to preserve the peace of the city unlesss the Council sustained him in his efforts, resigned on the spot.[13] Councilman John Glen finished out Nelson's term, beginning July 20th.

Allison Nelson was the first chief executive of the City of Atlanta to have been born within the present limits of Fulton County. His natal day was March 11, 1822, his sire having been John B. Nelson, founder of Nelson's Ferry across the Chattahoochee River, and who was murdered when Allison was a child of three. The family residence was located near the ferry landing, and in early 1822 was in Fayette, originally Henry, later De Kalb and, since 1853, Fulton County.

Allison Nelson studied law and practiced with ability and success, though the bent of his mind was military and for the stirring scenes of life. In 1846 he raised a volunteer company and served with distinction in the Mexican War. After his marriage to Mary L. Green, daughter of Alston H. and Cynthia Clay Green, he settled on a plantation in Coxe's District of Cobb County, across the Chattahoochee from the extensive holdings of his father-in-law, and where, in 1850, his holdings were valued at $27,000. During 1848 and 1849, Nelson represented Cobb County in the lower branch of the State Legislature. In politics he was an active State Rights Democrat.[14]

After resigning as mayor of Atlanta, his ardent and adventurous character led him to espouse warmly the cause of Cuban independence. He accepted the rank of Brigadier General under General Narciso Lopez, and but for the premature movements of that ill-fated chief, he would have had the presence and cooperation of a gallant band of Southern soldiers.

In 1856 General Nelson removed to Basque County, Texas. At the first Indian outbreak after his arrival, he was in arms, and the frontiersmen, seeing at once his talent for command, elected him captain. He was afterward commissioned by Governor Runnels, and did valiant service on the border. In 1860 Nelson was elected to the Texas legislature, and also to the convention which passed the ordinance of secession. When war broke he organized a regiment and rose to the rank of Brigadier General in the Confederate Army, rendering valuable service west of the Mississippi. General Nelson took sick in September, 1862, and died the following month, leaving a widow and three children. His Atlanta monument is Nelson Street, Southwest, once a segment of the old Nelson's Ferry Road.[15]

The resignation of Mayor Nelson and the circumstances leading to his action simply emphasized the fact that the chore of holding court had become a burden upon the chief executive. A movement had been set afoot to establish a City Court in order to relieve the mayor of his judicial activities, which culminated in an Act of the Legislature, approved March 5, 1856, establishing a City Court of Atlanta.[16] During its brief life of less than two years, the Court was presided over by Judge Samuel B. Hoyt. The Act creating this Court was repealed December 22, 1857, jurisdiction being given to the Superior Court of Fulton County.[17] A permanent City Court of Atlanta was not established until 1871. At any rate the mayors of Atlanta after Allison Nelson's time were relieved of a great burden.

Fulton County sent to the Legislature, in 1855, as its first State Senator, James M. Calhoun, formerly of Decatur, while the first representative of the county was John L. Harris. Both served during 1855 and 1856. For the corresponding period De Kalb County was represented by Charles Murphey in the Senate, and Dr. Peter F. Hoyle in the House.[18]

John L. Harris (1824-1879) was a rising young lawyer of Atlanta and native of Richmond County, Georgia. He subsequently moved to Brunswick where he became Judge of the Superior Court, and where he died and is buried.[19]

President Pierce, on March 3, 1855, appointed Hugh M. Boyd to succeed Dr. George G. Smith as Postmaster of Atlanta. Boyd was a native of Chester District, South Carolina, and had come to De Kalb County in the early 1830's, settling in Panthersville District, where he farmed and taught school until his removal to Atlanta in 1845. He resigned the postmastership April 2, 1856, to take a position as bookkeeper for the Western and Atlantic Railroad, but died before beginning his duties. His successor as postmaster was Thomas C. Howard, father of the noted Atlanta and Decatur attorney, William Schley Howard.[20]

The Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April, 1855, term took occasion to comment upon the public buildings of the new county seat:

> ". . . We have enquired into the arrangement existing between the City of Atlanta and the Inferior Court in relation to the use of the west end of the City Hall as a court room, which guarantees to the County the free use of said space for said purpose for an indefinite period of time, subject to be annulled by the City giving the County eighteen months notice.
>
> "Considering this arrangement which was expected would be made, and was used as an argument in favor of a new county in getting up the petition, and which we think was the chief instrument in its favor, the City have in good faith nobly responded to the expectations of the people. Such a magnificent house as the City Hall needs no encomiums from us. Long may it stand, long live the interest of the City.
>
> "We find that arrangements have been made for the building of a substantial Brick Jail on a site within convenient distance of the City Hall. The contract has been let out at the sum of nine thousand dollars, to be completed by 24th of September next. . . ."[21]

Henry B. Latimer, Foreman.

Riley M. Willingham
James F. Donehoo
Thomas Kile
Philip E. McDaniel
Francis M. Eddleman, Secretary
A. M. Parker
Jesse Wood
William W. Sentell
John Leroy Evins
Azariah Mims

Joel Herring
James F. Leonard
Henry W. McDaniel
Garland D. Black
Edwin Payne
Levi H. Harwell
Seaborn J. Ramsay
James B. Buchanan
John R. Cain
James R. Rosser
Hiram White

The grand jury for the following week, of which William Markham was foreman, corrected the proposed completion date of the jail to December 24th. It also took occasion to thoroughly castigate the grog shop system and the licensing policy for same, dwelling at length upon the evils thereof.[22]

On March 13, 1854, when Fulton County lacked both a court house and jail, and the Superior Court was meeting in Davis' Hall on Whitehall Street, the county paid its first debt incurred in the handling of malefactors—Treasurer Clarke was ordered to pay Allen Woodall, jailor of De Kalb County, the sum of $63.56—his account of jail fees for men imprisoned from Fulton County.[23]

This method of handling prisoners being both expensive and inconvenient, and having been prodded by various grand juries, the Inferior Court took definite action looking to the building of a Fulton County jail in December, 1854. On the 9th of that month Isaac N. Craven deeded to their honors city lot number 263 of Land Lot 52 in the 14th District, being the present northeast corner of Fair (Memorial Drive) and Fraser streets, as a jail lot, the consideration being $400.[24]

Sealed bids having been called for, the Justices of the Inferior Court opened the three submitted, on March 15, 1855. The proposals of D. Demarest, Healey and Whaley, and John Bryce were turned down in favor of a flat bid of $9000 by Columbus Hughes, architect of the City Hall.[25]

Building operations went forward immediately but progress was slow. Indeed it was not until April, 1856, that Mr. Hughes was able to deliver a finished building to the county authorities.[26]

The new jail faced westward on Fraser Street; was of brick construction, and measured 50 x 45 feet. It was two stories high, surmounted by a cornice of brick dentals and a battlement parapet. The lintels, sills and steps were specified to be Stone Mountain granite. The hiproof timbers to be the best Campbell County heart pine. Within, the two floors were divided into four rooms each, approximately 18 feet square. A lower hallway ran east and west, with a front and rear door. Each room was lighted by two windows, heavily barred with round vertical rods, one and one-quarter inches in diameter, set in two transverse bars which were embedded in the brickwork. The floors were of heart pine, one and one-half inches thick—six inches wide—tongue and grooved. The outside front and rear doors were made of iron slats, crossed and riveted. The inner front and back doors were of two layers of plank, with a core of sheet iron between them.[27] A twelve-foot plank fence surrounding a jail yard was added later upon the recommendation of a grand jury in October, 1856.

A formal inspection of the new jail was made by the grand jury for the 3rd week of the April, 1856, term, and its report must have been somewhat discouraging to architect and builder Hughes.

"Our whole body, having visited and inspected our new jail house, we regret that we cannot approve the plan on which it has been built. While we have no complaint as to the style of architecture, or any part of the workmanship, yet we are unanimous in the opinion that the plan is defective, and the house wholly unfit for the safe keeping of prisoners. We, therefore, notwithstanding the heavy expenses already incurred in its erection, respectfully recommend the adoption by the Inferior Court, of some plan for the improvement of the present arrangement, and the introduction of some kind of cells that shall more certainly prevent the escape of prisoners than the present arrangement."

Joseph Winship, Foreman.[28]

While Fulton County's first jail remained as a target for subsequent grand juries, it stood, with the exception of some inside changes, substantially as built until its destruction by order of General Sherman in November, 1864.[29]

That the citizens of De Kalb County were becoming impatient over Fulton's failure to pay its share of the old county debt, is indicated by the grand jury presentments of the former for April, 1855:

"We ask our next Legislature to pass an Act compelling the County of Fulton to pay its pro-rata share of the old original debt of DeKalb County by a certain specified time, as we are credibly informed they have made no provision as yet for the payment of said debt."

The same jury deplored at length the tendency of the Legislature to abuse its pardoning power involving convicted criminals (probably having in mind the Elijah Bird case), and recommended that the next Legislature should so alter the Constitution as to restrict the pardoning power of that body.[30]

Daniel Johnson, Foreman.

Moses W. Davis
James Moore
Ezekiel Reeves
Berry Ragsdale
John C. Austin
Harris Crowley
Benjamin F. Veal
Thomas L. Robertson
John G. McWilliams
Asa W. Howard
Harris S. Norman
William Crowell
H. J. Fowler
William Shepherd
James Burns
Starling Goodwin
John M. Phillips
Joseph Stewart
Thomas J. Dean
William Mosely
Willis L. Wells
Paschal C. Phillips

The Holland Free School received praise and unruly boys were pronounced an evil by the Fulton grand jury for the third week in April, 1855:

"We have made some inquiry in regard to the course of Education in our County, and are gratified to learn that although in some respects there exists a deplorable want of system in the conduct of many of our principal schools, they are generally well patronized and sustained. The Holland Free School, the only one of the class in the County, seems to be well conducted and in a highly prosperous condition. We greatly appreciate the liberality that prompted its establishment and endowment, and would earnestly commend the school to the lasting care of the benevolent of the community in which it is located.

"We would present as an intolerable grievance and evil of vast magnitude, the herds of unruly and vicious boys who infest the streets of the city of Atlanta by day and night, especially on the Sabbath, to the great annoyance of its citizens, and would earnestly request parents and guardians to restrain the children and wards from associating with such, and recommend to the city authorities the adoption of stringent measures to abate the nuisance."

JOHN F. MIMS, Foreman.[31]

After becoming a county seat Atlanta attracted quite a number of lawyers and by 1855 some forty members of the profession had chosen the city as their forum. About the first of the year a new sign appeared on a building at the northeast corner of Marietta and Broad streets, which informed the populace that here was the partnership of Overby, Bleckley and Gordon.[32]

This noted ante-bellum firm was composed of Basil H. Overby, Logan E. Bleckley and John B. Gordon, all of whom became brothers-in-law by marrying the daughters of General Hugh A. Haralson, of La Grange. Elizabeth became the second wife of Mr. Overby in June, 1854; Fanny, Mrs. Gordon in September, 1854, and Clara Caroline, the first Mrs. Bleckley in May, 1857.[33]

Though both Gordon and Bleckley were destined to achieve greater fame than Overby, the former upon the field of battle, and the latter as a jurist, the senior member of the firm, by virtue of longer experience and age, was the best practitioner of the partnership. He also became, in 1855, the first citizen of Atlanta to be nominated for governor of the state.

Overby was born in Anderson District, South Carolina, in 1814, and in early manhood came to Georgia, where he taught school for a time in the Nacoochee Valley. Afterwards he studied law under Judge W. H. Underwood of Gainesville and was admitted to the bar when twenty-one. His law practice took him to Watkinsville, where he met and married Miss Asenath Thrasher. Being a man of deep religious convictions, Overby joined the Methodist Church when he was eighteen, and about 1841 became a "lay preacher," often filling a pulpit. Seeking better opportunities for advancement in the law Mr. Overby moved to Atlanta toward the close of 1853. Not long afterward he established his family in a home at the southeast corner of Marietta and Spring streets.[34]

Basil Overby was noted for his eloquence, especially when speaking on his favorite topic of prohibition, which skill highly recommended him to the Prohibition Party of Georgia. Came the gubernatorial campaign of 1855, and the State Temperance Convention, meeting in Atlanta on February 22nd, nominated Overby as its candidate over William H. Crawford, son of Georgia's noted 1824 nominee for president of the United States.

It had been rumored that Overby would not accept the nomination, but his letter of acceptance dispelled all doubts as to where he stood:

"Atlanta, March 3d, 1855.

GENTLEMEN:—I am in receipt of yours of the 22d of February, by which I learn that on that day I was nominated by the Prohibition Convention a Candidate for Governor. I accept the nomination; and in order that a misunderstanding shall not occur between you and myself, nor between us and the voters of Georgia, permit me to say:

1st. I am in favor of repealing the License Laws now in force in this State.

2nd. I will advocate legislative action to prohibit the sale of liquors in any quantity, to be drunk as a beverage at the place of sale. I do not object to the sale and use of wine or spiritous liquors for medicinal, mechanical or religious purposes.

This is my exposition of the platform layed down by the Convention. Our Banner, with the above sentiments plainly inscribed upon its spotless folds, is thrown to the breeze.

We invite every philanthropist and patriot and Christian to rally with us under this standard, and make one determined, indomitable effort against grog-shops and crime, and for our wives and children. I am, gentlemen,

Your friend and fellow-citizen,

B. H. OVERBY."[35]

On June 5th, at Milledgeville, the State Democratic Convention met and nominated Herschel V. Johnson for re-election. He was generally recognized as one of the strongest Temperance men in the State, which fact greatly weakened Overby's position. The third contender was Garnett Andrews of Wilkes County, nominated by the American, or Know Nothing Party, at Macon on June 27th.[36]

While Overby made a spirited campaign over the State, he did not really expect to be elected, and was, therefore, not suprised by his overwhelming defeat in the October election. The vote stood: Johnson, 53,472; Andrews, 43,228, and Overby, 6,284.[37]

A month after the election the junior partner of Overby, Bleckley and Gordon withdrew to become, for a short time, a newspaper reporter in Milledgeville, but the senior members continued their practice together, with an ever increasing number of clients, until Overby's death. Meanwhile Overby had re-affiliated with the Know Nothing Party, and in 1857 was a candidate for the State Legislature on that ticket against Dr. John G. Westmoreland, also of Atlanta. He was defeated by the much smaller majority of 921 to 739 votes.[38]

In 1858 Overby began to decline in health, and while in attendance at the Superior Court in Forsyth County in 1859, was stricken with apoplexy. His mind was impaired and his physical powers almost wrecked. Hoping to regain his health, he went to visit his aged parents in South Carolina. However, he was beyond recovery and died November 27, 1859. His remains were brought back to Atlanta and interred in Oakland Cemetery.[39]

He was survived by his second wife, neé Elizabeth Haralson by sixty-six years; by their children, Hugh Haralson and Elizabeth Overby, and by the children of his first wife, Barton, Nick and Earle Overby and Mrs. James Middlebrooks, Mrs. W. W. Price and Mrs. Robert Winship. A great-grandson, born thirty years after the death of Atlanta's Prohibition candidate for governor, was to become the world's leading salesmen of soft drinks—Robert Winship Woodruff, of Coca-Cola.[40]

In addition to Adam Poole and Charner Humphries, previously noted, several other pioneer citizens of De Kalb County and of Atlanta, died during 1855. Among them was Merrell Collier, of South River in De Kalb, twin brother of Meredith Collier of Peachtree Creek in Fulton County. Merrell resembled his brother in personal appearance, but differed in that he was fonder of the so-called luxuries of life, and in politics was a Whig, while Meredith was a Democrat. It is said that they had many friendly political arguments. Merrell Collier and his wife Elizabeth Ward had six children. The only son, Dr. Henry G. Collier, died in 1850 at the age of 30. Among the daughters were Charlotte, who married Eli J. Hulsey; Margaret, wife of Dr. F. M. Brantley of Senoia, Georgia, and Nancy, Mrs. David A. Cook. Merrell Collier, his wife and son are all buried in Wesley Chapel Methodist Churchyard in Panthersville District, De Kalb County.[41]

Major George Shaw, founder of a well-known Atlanta family, was born in Virginia; served in the War of 1812 and studied law, being admitted to the bar in Jefferson, Georgia. He came to Atlanta in 1847 and was one of the first trial justices in the town. He was a familiar figure in early days on the streets of Atlanta, genial and kindly, a model gentleman. He died in January, 1855.[42]

Daniel McSheffery and John Bailey, two of the earliest citizens of Atlanta, passed away in October and December, 1855, respectively. Both were merchants. The first Masonic Lodge hall in Atlanta was over McSheffery's store at Pryor and Alabama streets, while Bailey was one of the original town commissioners of Marthasville in 1843. Both of these pioneers, in addition to Major Shaw, are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[43]

The first bakery in Atlanta was established by Daniel Dougherty, a native of County Donegal, Ireland, who in conjunction therewith also operated a ten pin alley, both on the site of the Peachtree Street end of the present Peachtree Arcade. He was the son-in-law of Patrick Connelly (or Connally),[44] also a native of Ireland, who before his death in 1851 had acquired the Arcade site and a tract of land through which Connally Street, named for him, now runs. His only child, Mary Ann, wife of Daniel Dougherty, inherited both tracts, the Arcade tract being still owned by some of her descendants. Daniel Dougherty, age 45, was stabbed in the abdomen by a man named Martin on Whitehall Street, April 17, 1855. The murderer apparently escaped, there being no mention of an indictment or trial in the records of the Fulton County Superior Court. The Messrs. Connally and Dougherty are buried under one of the most elaborate monuments in Oakland Cemetery.[45]

While Atlanta was losing some good Irish citizens in '55, three were admitted to United States citizenship by O. A. Bull, presiding over the Fulton Superior Court on October 15th of that year. They were Mathew Blunt, George Johnson and Cornelius Sheehan, the latter having filed his oath of intention to become a citizen some years before in Richmond County, Georgia. His children were to become, and those still living are, useful citizens of the community.[46]

During 1855, while the Atlanta Medical College was conducting its first term, the city also acquired its first privately operated infirmary or hospital. Its opening was announced through advertisements in the *Atlanta Intelligencer* and the *Cherokee Advocate* at Marietta.

"INFIRMARY

The undersigned have opened, in the City of Atlanta, an Infirmary for the reception of patients laboring under medical or surgical disease.

An intelligent nurse and faithful servants will be in constant attendance, and will give their attention to the sick at all hours, day and night, when required.

The surgical department will be under the control of W. F. Westmoreland, who will give prompt attention to injuries and every variety of disease requiring surgical operations. The usual fees adopted by the physicians of the city will be charged, with fifteen cents per day for board, etc.

Planters and others sending negroes may rest assured that they will be properly attended to, and if after an examination it be determined that there is no prospect of relief, they will be sent home without any charge.

W. F. Westmoreland, M.D.
J. G. Westmoreland, M.D.[47]

Atlanta, April 24, 1855."

Matters concerning real estate and proposed measures for its protection occupied some of the attention of Fulton County grand juries during October, 1855. That for the second week of the term commented:

". . . It is believed that many owners of real estate in the environs of the city and without the corporate limits are accustomed to rent in person or through irresponsible agents, houses to an objectionable class of occupants greatly to the annoyance of many worthy citizens. We believe it is our own duty and request subsequent juries to look into these charges closely, and to use every effort to bring such offenders before the county. . . ."

George W. Adair, Foreman.[48]

The foreman was to make quite a name for himself and his descendants during future years in Atlanta real estate.

The succeeding grand jury offered the following:

". . . It appears that a portion of the line between Fulton and De Kalb counties lying between the old Hightower Trail and the Chattahoochee River is not located. We recommend that that portion of the line be surveyed and located at an early date.

"We recommend that our next Legislature pass stringent laws making trespassers upon gardens and orchards more explicit and penal; also to make the offence penal of taking, cutting and carrying away of wood or timber from another's land. We earnestly recommend the proper authorities of the City of Atlanta to rigidly enforce the law against all persons who allow slaves to hire their own time, and prevent the continual trading of such slaves and free persons of color in the city."

Clark Howell, Foreman.[49]

Until 1855 Atlanta was served by only two types of public utility, railroad and telegraph. Therefore the town took a long step forward when gas service, for illumination only, was inaugurated on Christmas Day of that year.

The question of gas lighting came up in Atlanta for the first time on March 3, 1854, when a communication was received by council from a Trenton, New Jersey, firm upon the subject. While a committee had been appointed to consider the matter, it was deemed inexpedient due to the financial condition of the city.[50]

One year later, on March 23, 1855, William Helme, of Philadelphia, made a proposal involving the erection of a gas works. Council thereupon appointed two committees, one composed of councilmen Thompson, Clarke and

Kile, to confer with the citizens, and the other, to confer with Mr. Helme, comprised councilmen Darnall, Powell and Barnes.[51]

Mr. Helme's proposal was to erect coal-gas works, to lay down pipes in the streets, alleys, etc., of the city for lighting the same, and the public and private buildings therein, he to have the exclusive privilege for fifty years. The works were to be of sufficient capacity to manufacture 20,000 cubic feet of gas every 24 hours. The council was to erect at least 50 street lamps, and to pay for lighting the same, thirty dollars each per annum. The property of the gas company was to be free from taxation. It was estimated that the gas works would cost $50,000, and the city was required to take $20,000 of the gas company's stock, paying for it in bonds bearing 7% interest and of the denomination of $500 each. The substance of the above was incorporated into an ordinance; was passed, and the mayor authorized to make a contract with Mr. Helme, which he did on April 6th.[52]

Soon thereafter a contract was entered into with the Schofield Iron Works of Macon, Georgia, to make and deliver to the city fifty ornamental lamp posts, including lamps and burners, for $21 each, all to be delivered on or before October 1, 1855. On January 28, 1856, Mr. Helme transferred to the mayor and council $20,000 in stock of the gas company, which had meanwhile been incorporated, for $20,000 in city bonds, and himself gave bond for the completion of the works.[53]

The Atlanta Gas Light Company was incorporated by the State Legislature in January, 1856, the Act being approved on February 16th. Incorporators were Julius A. Hayden, William N. Kirkpatrick, Adolph J. Brady, William C. Lawshe, Cicero H. Strong and William Helme, all stockholders in the company.[54]

From that day to this the Atlanta Gas Light Company has been a valued and useful citizen of the community. It is Atlanta's oldest corporation.

A contemporary of George Gilman Smith in Atlanta (see Chapter 27) was George W. Terry, a son of the pioneer Stephen Terry. After service as master machinist for the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line Railroad and as chief engineer of the Atlanta Waterworks, he moved to Tampa, Florida, about 1885, where he died in 1920.[55] Having read Dr. Smith's recollections of early Atlanta as published in the *Journal* during 1909, Mr. Terry was inspired to write his own. They were published by the *Journal,* and are herewith given permanent sanctuary.

"LOOKING BACKWARDS"

By George W. Terry[56]

"Memory is a paradise, out of which fate cannot drive us.

"May we look forward with pleasure, and backward without regret.

"It is with much interest and pleasure I read 'Recollections of An Atlanta Boy, 1847 to 1855,' by Rev. George G. Smith, Vineville, Macon, Georgia.

"I remember the old pioneer citizens that my friend George Smith names in his recollections, and the places he speaks of seem almost as familiar as if I had seen them yesterday.

"George G.—Pete Smith—as he was familiarly called by some of his boy friends, was one of the very dear friends of my youth and young manhood.

"I well remember the Sunday morning I met George and he invited me to go to church with him, which I accepted and went to old Evans' Chapel and heard him preach his first or maiden sermon. This was over half a hundred years ago. I have met George only once in all these years and that was

30 years ago when I heard him preach in the First Street Methodist Church in Macon. He preached sitting up in a high chair, being unable to stand owing to a wound he received from the opposite side in the little unpleasantness that existed between the north and south some forty years ago. . . .

"There were quite a number of prominent pioneer citizens who were very important and potent material factors in the building up of the infant Atlanta.

"There was Col. Lemuel P. Grant who was a civil engineer in the employ of the Georgia Railroad, when that road was building into 'The Terminus.' Soon after the road was completed Col. Grant and my father, Stephen Terry, formed a partnership in the real estate business, and remained in business together for many years. My father was generally called Major Terry, as he had been major of the militia years ago.

"Col. Grant was a northern man. I think he was from Maine,[57] but came South when a young man and married old man Ammi Williams' daughter, of Decatur, and soon after his marriage settled in Atlanta, where he resided the balance of his days. Grant Park is a monument to him.[58]

"Then there was Col. Richard Peters, who was also at one time one of the civil engineers of the Georgia Railroad, and was one of the pioneers of the town. He had considerable means and invested freely in local real estate. Col. Peters married the oldest daughter of Dr. Joseph Thompson, for many years proprietor of the old Atlanta Hotel.

"Dr. Thompson was noted far and wide for his practical jokes. Many times the tables were turned on him and he got the worst of it, but always took it good naturedly; was always jolly and had a pleasant word for everyone he met.

"I remember as if it was yesterday, the last time I saw the doctor. It was several years before I left Georgia. I met him in old Shelpert's barber shop on a Christmas eve. The doctor was talking of the old times when he was a young practicing physician; when he used to ride on horseback, visiting patients all over the country settlements of De Kalb County. And when he was putting on his old blue broadcloth cloak to start out, I said to him: 'Doctor, how old are you today?' He replied, 'I am eighty-tooth.' He then said to me: 'You see this cloak. I bought it in Charleston just 40 years ago.' He then took a little pearl handled pen knife out of his pocket and said: 'I bought this knife at the same time and place.'

"And there was Col. George W. Adair, who was one of the very early pioneer settlers, and who was engaged in various lines of business at different times up to the beginning of the war, when he went into the Confederate Army. However, I think he was editor of the *Southern Confederacy*, a daily paper published in Atlanta during the war. Col. Adair was of a jovial nature, always in a pleasant mood, with a kind word for everyone and with a regular magazine full of anecdotes and funny stories. He was successfully engaged in the real estate business for a number of years up to the time he passed away, when his sons, Forrest and George W., succeeded to the business.

"There was my old father-in-law, Rev. Thomas B. Lanier, whose daughter Elizabeth and the writer hereof were married on August 21, 1855, and she and I have been walking the path of this life side by side for a little over 54 years, and are still traveling along together, 'adown the western slope.'

"There was Lou Emmil, the first baker and confectioner;[59] Charles Heinz, the first locksmith; Dr. J. A. Taylor, one of the pioneer druggists; Perino Brown, one of the first bankers; Noah Fowler, one of the early railroad agents, and Judge Jared I. Whitaker, who was for many years proprietor of the old *Atlanta Intelligencer,* with John H. Steele as editor.

"And there was Judge Samuel B. Hoyt, one of the pioneer lawyers, at one time city attorney and judge of the old city court. And there was Dr. James F. Alexander, Drs. John and Willis F. Westmoreland, Dr. Solomon S. Beach, Dr. Stephen T. Biggers, all of whom were prominent physicians in the days of old.

"Brother George Smith's reference to our old Irish friend, Billy Mann, reminds me of a rather amusing thing that happened in the long ago. In those days there was no law prohibiting live stock from running at large in the town, so old uncle Billy Mann had quite a bunch of hogs that ran at large on the streets and foraged where they might, and no one need say nay. Uncle Billy just fed his swine out in front of his store on Whitehall Street, which was, as well as I remember, on the east side of the street near the middle of the block, between Alabama and Hunter.

"I was a boy clerk in Mr. Norcross' store at the time, and we boys and young men in the store used to keep a keg of ginger beer in the cellar with which to quench our thirst when we got dry, but sometimes it would get too strong or hard for a pleasant drink, and we would empty it out and, as it were, make a new brew. So one afternoon the keg was rolled out and the bung knocked out, and the fluid ran out into a little depression, basin-like, in the hard clay, where it stood for a short time, till one of Uncle Billy's big, old, long-legged sow hogs walked up and just swigged down a gallon or so of the stuff.

"She then started for her home up Whitehall Street, but she hadn't gone far before the draught in which she had indulged began to have its effect. She commenced to stagger and squeal, and finally went down the same as a drunk man would, and then she grunted and scrambled to her feet just as that same drunk man would do, but her power of locomotion was gone. So she gently lay down, or fell down, and went to sleep, and slept off her drunk, just like many of our fellow men do every day in the year. . . ."

STILL LOOKING BACKWARDS OVER THE DAYS OF "AULD LANG SYNE"

By George W. Terry, of Tampa, Florida, a Former and Pioneer Atlantan[60]

"I now wish to mention some more of the old pioneer citizens, and what I remember about them.

"There was Judge Reuben Cone, of whom my old friend George G. Smith spoke, as having had the first door bell in the town. Now as well as I remember the front door of Judge Cone's residence also bore the first door plate, on which was inscribed the plain name—REUBEN CONE. Judge Cone was one of the most wealthy of our pioneer citizens, though he was not a millionaire. Men with millions were few, if any, in these United States at that time, but Judge Cone contributed greatly to the upbuilding of the infant city. Julius A. Hayden, son-in-law of Judge Cone, was also an important factor in the material prosperity of the town.

"Then there was Dr. Smith, father of Rev. George G. Smith, who was a leader in the moral, spiritual and material upbuilding of the young city. He was postmaster of Atlanta back in the early 50's—I think it was about 1854 he was appointed.[61]

"Dr. Smith had one nephew, Isaac G. Smith, who was a very dear friend of mine; was my best man when I was married in August, 1855. Ike was an engineer on the old A. & W. P. Railroad, and crossed over to the shores of eternity in a railroad accident in May. I think it was in 1856. I am sure it was less than a year after he acted as my groomsman.[62]

"There was J (with a great big) Bell down on the north side of Decatur Street about halfway between Pryor and Ivy streets. I remember this Mr. Bell had a dry goods store in a one-story building with a very high battery front, on which he had a big J painted, followed by the picture of a very large Bell. And Marcus A. Bell [his son], another of the pioneer lawyers, who was prominent in his profession in his day, and was a writer of distinction on interesting subjects. . . .

"Then there was Dr. Currier, a pioneer civil engineer of marked ability, who was chief engineer making a preliminary survey for a plank road from Atlanta to Dahlonega in Lumpkin County, which was projected by Mr. Norcross about 1850.

"This writer was then quite a chunk of a boy and went out with the surveying party as rodman, or rodboy, for the man who was taking the levels. I want to say just here that on this surveying trip I first met and made the acquaintance of Evan P. Howell of Warsaw on the north side of the Chattahoochee River, where our surveying party crossed the river, and where Evan's father, Major Clark Howell, had a big plantation, lots of niggers and a big country store. After Major Howell moved to the city, Evan and I renewed our acquaintance and ever after he and I were very warm friends.

"And there was old man Willis Peck, another of the pioneers who, I think, was a mechanic, but I don't remember what trade he followed.[63] And John B. Peck was another of the old timers who was an active participant in the affairs of the young city.

"Col. John B. Peck, as he was called for many years, was a northern man,[64] but came South when a young man and engaged in the railroad business. Some few years after coming to Atlanta he married a daughter of old man Willis Peck, and Mr. [Er] Lawshe married another of his daughters. I made the acquaintance of John B. Peck away back in the early 50's when he was general bookkeeper in the freight office of the Georgia Railroad, and I was running the switch engine in the yard.

"Col. Peck's ability as a railroad man was soon recognized by the officials and he was promoted quite rapidly. In a few years he had acquired a reputation as one of the most efficient railroad managers in the South; in fact he had gained national notoriety as such, and had been general manager of several railroads for a number of years before his demise.

"And there was John C. Peck, no relation to the Pecks spoken of above, but he was one who contributed a large share to the interests of the town in the ante-bellum days.

"And there was Thomas (Tom) Crusselle, one of the first stonemasons. And old man Joseph (Joe) Martin, and the Rev. David (Dave) Thurman, who my friend George Smith spoke of in his recollections.

"Well, Joe Martin and Dave Thurman carried on a blacksmith shop down on the north side of, and fronting the Georgia Railroad right of way at Butler Street, and in connection with their regular blacksmithing, they carried on gunsmithing, the making of rifles and the repairing of guns generally. William H. C. Cowan worked in the Martin and Thurman shop, learned gunsmithing, and worked at it for a number of years. I remember these people had a rifle range just back of their shop, where they trained the sights of their guns before they would let them go out of the shop.

"Then there was old Esquire Thomas L. Thomas, one of the good old pioneer Christians, who was a local Methodist preacher of much power and ability, an earnest worker for the Master. And old Uncle Lewie Lawshe, another one of the good old citizens and noble veteran soldier of the cross.

"These good old men, with many others of the old pioneers who have crossed over the river, have been resting 'under the shade of the trees' for many years.

"And old Uncle John Glen, as he was lovingly called by many of his young friends, was one of the best and most beloved pioneer citizens of Atlanta.

"Uncle John and the writer were associated together in railroad service away back in the early 50's, when he was in his vigorous manhood and I was a comparative youth. Mr. Glen was yardmaster in the old Georgia Railroad yard, and I was handling the switch engine in the yard under his authority. Now, this was before Fulton County was formed or created, and Atlanta was in old De Kalb. Of course the superior court was held in Decatur, the county site, and the people in and around Atlanta who had to attend court, had to go to Decatur. So during one term of the court, while I was in charge of the switch engine, Mr. Glen, being in charge, he would have me hitch on to one passenger car in the morning and run down to Decatur, taking the lawyers and others who had to attend the court, which generally pretty well filled the car. We would then side track the car, run back to town, do the switching, go back in the evening and bring them home; then take them back the next morning again. As I said, I was under Mr. Glen's authority, and he acted as my conductor.

"There are quite a number of other prominent pioneer citizens, incidents and places that I would like to write about at this time, but as I have already made this letter much longer than I intended to, I will now saw it off.

Yours truly

George W. Terry."

Between 1850 and 1855 the population of Atlanta nearly tripled, rising from approximately 2,500 to approximately 6,000. During this time the city acquired many citizens destined to play an important part in its transformation from a town into a city. Among them will be found the names of the founders of many present day Atlanta families. Some of these pioneers who arrived during the early 50's were:

Albert N. Abbott
John F. Albert
Ezra Andrews
John Boutell
Elisha B. Burnham
Timothy Burke
Michael Bloomfield
Isaac E. Bartlett
William W. Baldwin
William M. Butt
John N. Beach
Charles D. Baker

John W. Cason
John Clower
Hamilton Crankshaw
Michael Corrigan
Hubbard W. Cozart
James Caldwell
Francis H. Coleman
Thomas L. Cooper
Jonathan Carmichael
John A. Doane
James L. Dunning
James T. Doane

David Demorest
Charles W. Dill
Thomas S. Denny
David Dewberry
William Forsyth
Green J. Foreacre
Noah R. Fowler
William P. Farnsworth
Wiley J. Foster
Luke Gray
John B. Gordon
Thomas Gannon
William T. Gunby
James Garvey
Clark Howell
Singleton G. Howell
Clement C. Howell
William L. Hubbard
Green B. Haygood
Moses Holland
Green Holland
Andrew Howard
Amos W. Hammond
Nathaniel J. Hammond
Anthony Horton
Thomas G. Healey
Robert Holliday
Amassa W. Hall
Samuel B. Hoyt
Thomas Haverty
Benjamin O. Jones
Oliver H. Jones
Jeremiah Kehoe
Robert T. Kean
Lewis L. Ledbetter
John H. Lovejoy
Thomas B. Lanier
Warner Lyon
Maurice L. Lichtenstadt
Morris Lazaron
Ganaway Martin
Henry W. McDaniel
Jeremiah D. Malone
William Markham
John H. Mecaslin
James McPherson
Charles Nort
Henry M. Newton
James R. D. Ozburn
George T. Ogletree
Basil H. Overby
Edward Parsons
John A. Puckett
Francis P. Perdue
Edwin Priest
Harrison Pettis
Levi Robinson
Rilant P. Ray
Seaborn J. Ramsey
Osborn J. Register
Wright Rogers
William R. Richardson
John Ryan
Leaver Richardson
Joshua Spillman
Alvin K. Seago
Eli M. Seago
George Stewart
John Snow
Richard A. Saye
Cicero H. Strong
Philip M. Sitton
Bluford D. Smith
Augustus H. Stokes
Bartley M. Smith
James F. Seavey
Charles Savage
John G. Schenck
John W. Thompson
Jeremiah F. Trout
Thomas A. Thomas
Lewis Valentine
William R. Venable
Charles H. C. Willingham
Andrew J. Walraven
Thomas C. H. Wilson
Jacob Weaver
Cyrus H. Wallace
John R. Wallace
John Wade
Joseph Winship
Hiram A. White
William T. Wilson
B. Frank Wyman
Caleb A. Whaley
John G. Westmoreland
Willis F. Westmoreland
Joshua Whitney
James E. Williams
Jared I. Whitaker
John Young
Robert Young[65]

NOTES—CHAPTER 33

[1] Oliver Wendell Holmes, "The Deacon's Masterpiece."

[2] Richard B. Harwell, *Confederate Music* (Chapel Hill, N. C., 1950), 6, 88, 97, 126.

[3] Also called the American Party, the object of which was to render the foreign-born population politically powerless through very stringent naturalization laws and the exclusive choice of native Americans for office; so-called popularly because the members replied "I don't know" to any questions asked them about the party. It flourished from 1853 to 1856, but by 1860 had disappeared. *Webster's New International Dictionary* (unabridged, 1935).

[4] Reed, *Atlanta,* 72-73.

[5] *Ibid.,* 73.

[6] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899, p. 578.

[7] Reed, *Atlanta,* 73.

[8] *Ibid.,* 73-74.

[9] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 45.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] *Hopkins' Atlas,* 1878; city directories, 1883-1886.

[12] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 45-47.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 74.

[14] *The Southern Confederacy,* Nov. 29, 1862, quoting the *Houston, Texas Telegraph.* "Garrett's Necrology".

[15] *Southern Confederacy,* Nov. 29, 1862.

[16] *Ga. Laws,* 1855-1856, p. 240; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 130.

[17] *Ga. Laws,* 1857, p. 112.

[18] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, pp. 322, 337; *ibid.,* 1927, pp. 473-474.

[19] "Garrett's Necrology".

[20] Record of Postmasters, Fulton; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 384; "Garrett's Necrology".

[21] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1855, Book A.

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Fulton County's First Jail", *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 6, 1932. This article is based largely upon Mr. Kurtz's research in the Minute Book of the old Fulton County Inferior Court. The book has since been misplaced, presumably in the Court House, and cannot now (1950) be found.

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] Fulton County Grand Jury Presentments for 3rd week, April term, 1856.

[27] Kurtz, "First Jail," *loc. cit.*

[28] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1856, Book A.

[29] Kurtz, "First Jail," *loc. cit.*

[30] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1855, Book C.

[31] *Ibid.,* Fulton, 1855, Book A.

[32] Allen P. Tankersley, "Basil Hallam Overby: Champion of Prohibition in Ante Bellum Georgia", *G.H.Q.,* (Mar., 1947).

[33] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[34] Tankersley, "B. H. Overby", *loc. cit.*

[35] *Ibid.,* quoted from *Southern Recorder,* Mar. 13, 1855.

[36] Tankersley, "B. H. Overby", *loc. cit.*

[37] *Ibid.*

[38] *Ibid.*

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology".

[41] "Garrett's Necrology."

[42] *Pioneer Ciizens' History,* 385; "Garrett's Necrology".

[43] "Garrett's Necrology".

[44] Spelled Connelly on tombstone; Connally in will.

[45] "Garrett's Necrology"; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 160; "Mrs. Cannon's Recollections", *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 30, 1888.

[46] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1855, Book A.

[47] *Atlanta Weekly Intelligencer* and *Cherokee Advocate,* Oct. 12, 1855, quoted in *A.H.B.,* XVI (Jan., 1939), 30.

[48] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1855, Book A.

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] Reed, *Atlanta,* 71.

[51] *Ibid.,* 75.

[52] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 46.

[53] Reed, *Atlanta,* 76.

[54] *Ga. Laws,* 1855-1856, p. 420.

[55] "Garrett's Necrology".

[56] *Atlanta Journal,* Oct. 23, 1909.

[57] Born in Frankfort, Maine, 1817.

[58] Col. Grant gave the land for the park in 1882.

[59] Daniel Dougherty probably preceded him.

[60] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 7, 1909.

[61] Dr. Smith served as postmaster, 1851-1855.

[62] The inscription on Isaac G. Smith's tombstone at Oakland Cemetery recites that he was accidentally killed on the Atlanta & La Grange R.R., while in the discharge of his duties, May 16, 1856.

[63] Willis Peck was a plasterer.

[64] Born in New York State.

[65] Based upon a comparison between the U. S. Census of Atlanta for 1850 and the Atlanta Tax Digest of 1854. The list does not purport to be complete.

CHAPTER 34

1856

THE presidential election of 1856 brought victory to James Buchanan, nominee of the Democrats. His opponents were John C. Fremont, standardbearer of the newly organized Republican Party, and Millard Fillmore, candidate of the Know-Nothings. It was to be nearly thirty years before the Democrats were able to elect another president.

The result of the contest in Georgia was a victory for Buchanan of 14,000 votes. The only counties carried by Fillmore were in those parts of middle Georgia where the Whigs had formerly been especially strong. The men who voted for Fillmore did so in order merely to prevent their party from falling to pieces, and because there was no urgent reason to the contrary. The rising young orator Benjamin H. Hill was the only noteworthy leader of the Fillmore party in Georgia, and he stumped the state vigorously for his candidate.[1]

In spite of the fact that Millard Fillmore made a relatively poor showing in Georgia, his candidacy inspired a large mass meeting in Atlanta on October 2,1856. The lowest estimate of the number present was 12,000. The meeting was addressed by several eloquent speakers, including Henry W. Hilliard, Benjamin H. Hill, Dr. Homer V. M. Miller, "The Demosthenes of the Mountains"; Robert P. Trippe and Ambrose R. Wright. Though much enthusiasm was engendered, an ominous event marred the occasion.

An eighty-foot flagpole had been erected in a vacant area just north of the passenger station, and in attempting to raise a flag, the flag rope became entangled with the guy-ropes near the top. There seemed no way to remedy the matter but by taking the pole down. At this critical juncture, John McGehagan, a delegate from Morgan County, and a former sailor, volunteered to ascend the pole and cut the entangled ropes. After cutting one, near the top, he lost his hold and fell to the ground, being killed instantly. The sympathetic crowd, before leaving the grounds, raised a subscription of $2,000 for his widow.[2]

Politics upon a smaller scale resulted in the commissioning, on January 12, 1856, of the following new officers of Fulton County: Thomas J. Perkerson, Sheriff; William R. Venable, Clerk, Superior Court, and Moses Holland, Coroner. Other officers held over. In De Kalb County all former officers were continued except that John W. Fowler succeeded Spencer P. Wright as sheriff, and John Hawkins succeeded William Johnston, deceased, as coroner. Both were commissioned January 11th.

Samuel C. Elam and Zachariah A. Rice became members of the Fulton County Inferior Court on August 2, 1856, succeeding Samuel Walker and Clark Howell.[3]

At a city election held January 25, 1856, William Ezzard, one of the pioneer lawyers of De Kalb County, was chosen mayor of Atlanta. Councilmen elected to serve with him were: 1st Ward, Larkin H. Davis and John F. Albert; 2nd Ward, Cicero H. Strong and Ezra Andrews; 3rd Ward, Thomas L. Thomas and James L. Terry; 4th Ward, Cornelius R. Hanleiter and Lewis J. Parr; 5th Ward, Thomas Kile and Ambrose B. Forsyth.[4]

T. L. Thomas resigned June 27 and was succeeded by Green B. Haygood, July 18. C. R. Hanleiter resigned November 21st and was succeeded by John B. Peck, December 5, 1856.[5]

Officers elected by the above board were B. N. Williford, Marshal; E. T. Hunnicutt, Deputy; H. C. Holcombe, Clerk; James McPherson, Treasurer; G. A. Pilgrim, Sexton, and John D. Wells, Clerk of Market.[6]

That the above was the first city administration to have the benefit of the then modern convenience of gas lights is indicated by a paragraph from the Fulton County grand jury presentments for the 2nd week in April, 1856:

> "Whereas the court and office rooms in the City Hall occupied by the County have been furnished with gas fixtures, we recommend the Inferior Court to procure and attach suitable chandeliers."
>
> Henry B. Latimer, Foreman.[7]

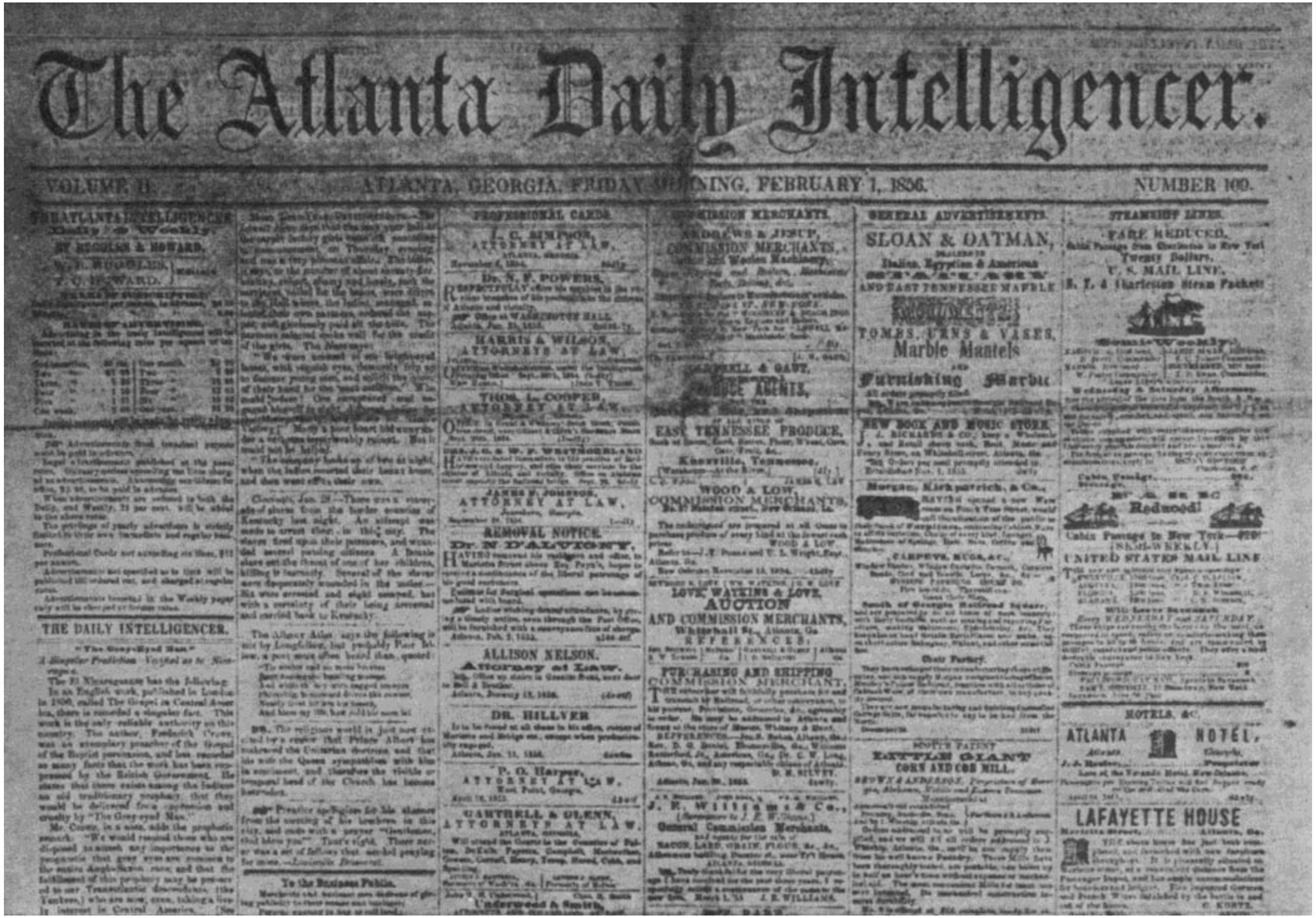
Some of the routine business to come before Atlanta's first "gaslit" administration is indicated by the Minutes of Council for 1856:

Jan. 29—Salary of City Judge (S. B. Hoyt) fixed at $500.
April 11—P. S. Gerald, through C. R. Hanleiter, presented to City Council, a portrait of General Zachary Taylor, for which a resolution of thanks was voted, and the portrait ordered hung up in Council chamber.
April 11—A Board of Health was elected as follows: Drs. John G. Westmoreland, Elisha J. Roach, Thomas C. H. Wilson, E. N. Calhoun, and Mr. Stephen Terry.
April 18—Crying of the night watch dispensed with on Sunday evenings until 1 o'clock A.M.
June 3—The petition of a Negro to open an ice cream saloon was refused as being unwise.
June 20—Council was asked by a citizen's meeting to take $3000 stock in a bridge over the Chattahoochee River, to make access to the city more convenient for business from Cobb County.[8]
A few days later the Mayor, by direction of Council, subscribed for $3000 stock of the Chattahoochee Bridge Company.
Oct. 3—Night watch accused of sleeping on duty, but excused.
Dec. 5—Ordered that Patrick Lynch have a check for $243.67 for Kirb (*sic*) stone and laying same.[9]

The population of Atlanta in 1856 was given at 8,000 by a local census, and there were said to be 75 business places of all kinds in the city. The streets were considerably improved in the matter of grading and cleanliness, and much paving had been done. Along most of the streets in the business section, brick sidewalks had been laid. Buildings continued to go up at a lively rate, and many of those erected were of a substantial and expensive character. New enterprises were the order of the day.[10]

One of the new enterprises was the Bank of Fulton, the first to be organized and officered by local citizens, and the first institution of its kind in the city to enjoy the confidence, generally, of its business men.

An Act of the State Legislature, approved March 6, 1856, recited that William Ezzard, A. W. Stone, John L. Harris, John Collier, Jonathan Norcross, G. B. Haygood, Amos W. Hammond, T. L. Thomas, Joseph Thompson, J. I



The Atlanta Daily Intelligencer.

VOLUME II. ATLANTA, GEORGIA, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1856. NUMBER 100.

THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

L. C. SIMPSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Dr. N. F. POWERS,

HARRIS & WILSON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

THOS. L. COOPER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

JAMES F. JOHNSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

REMOVAL NOTICE.
Dr. N D'ALVIGNY,

ALLISON NELSON,
Attorney at Law.

DR. HILLYER

P. O. Harper,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
West Point, Georgia.

GARTRELL & GLENN,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

Underwood & Smith,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

ANDREWS & JESUP,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

CAMPBELL & GAUT,
PRODUCE AGENTS,
EAST TENNESSEE PRODUCE,
Knoxville, Tennessee,

WOOD & LOW,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

LOVE, WATKINS & LOVE,
AUCTION
AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
Whitehall St., Atlanta, Ga.
REFERENCES:

PURCHASING AND SHIPPING
COMMISSION MERCHANT,

J. E. Williams & Co.,
General Commission Merchants,

GENERAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

SLOAN & OATMAN,
Italian, Egyptian & American
AND EAST TENNESSEE MARBLE
TOMBS, URNS & VASES,
Marble Mantels
AND
Furnishing Marble

NEW BOOK AND MUSIC STORE.

Morgan, Kirkpatrick, & Co.,

CARPETS, RUGS, &C.,

Chair Factory.

SCOTT'S PATENT
LITTLE GIANT
CORN AND COB MILL.

STEAMSHIP LINES.

FARE REDUCED.
Twenty Dollars.
U. S. MAIL LINE.

Redwood!
Cabin Passage to New York—$20!
[SEMI-WEEKLY.]
UNITED STATES MAIL LINE

HOTELS, &C.

ATLANTA HOTEL,

LAFAYETTE HOUSE

(*From an original in collection of Franklin M. Garrett*)

Front page news in 1856. The Intelligencer was Atlanta's first really successful daily newspaper. It lasted until 1871. About the only local news in the papers of this era was the business and professional cards

Whitaker, Robert M. Clarke, Clark Howell, Singleton G. Howell, and such persons as they may procure to take stock under this act, be and they are hereby incorporated and made a body politic by the name and style of the "Bank of Fulton," with banking privileges, located at Atlanta, and shall so continue until the first day of January, 1875, and no longer, etc. The Act specified that the capital stock of the bank shall be $300,000, divided into 3,000 shares of $100 each.[11]

First officers of the bank were A. W. Stone, attorney-at-law, president, and William M. Williams, brother of James E., builder of the Atheneum, cashier. In 1857 Alfred Austell, long a successful merchant of Campbellton in old Campbell County, cast his lot with Atlanta, and together with E. W. Holland bought the bank that year and assumed control of its affairs. Holland became president and Austell cashier. They, together with J. I. Whitaker, constituted the directorate. The Bank of Fulton was located on the south side of Alabama Street, between Whitehall and Pryor. It did a prosperous business until the city was captured by the Federal forces in 1864, at which time it suspended. It was never reorganized.[12]

A branch of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company Agency was also established in Atlanta in 1856, its office being located at the northeast corner of Whitehall (now Peachtree) and the railroad—present Peters Building site. Perino Brown was first agent. He was succeeded by W. W. Clayton, who remained until business was suspended and the building destroyed as a result of General Sherman's visit. After the war Mr. Brown was again placed in charge, remaining until 1873, when he was followed by S. B. Hoyt. Judge Hoyt continued to conduct the company's business until May, 1875, when the Atlanta Savings Bank was organized and absorbed the business of the agency.[13]

Another important new enterprise, born in 1856, was the Georgia Air Line Railroad, genesis of the Southern Railway's present Atlanta-Charlotte main line. The "Air Line," as it was called, was conceived by Jonathan Norcross and others as a substitute for plank roads. Norcross tells the story himself:[14]

"How was the Air Line first started?

"The Air Line grew, probably, out of a very queer sort of craze that we had in the old days. This was the mania for plank roads. Several plank roads were actually built, and it was thought that they would take the place of railroads in great part. In Atlanta we felt the necessity of a connection with northeast Georgia, and I made a canvass of the upper part of the State for a plank road between Atlanta and Dahlonega. In this canvass I made a speech at Warsaw at the residence of Colonel Clark Howell, where a big barbecue was prepared for me and at which Evan P. Howell, a chit of a boy then, was playing about the yard. I succeeded in raising a good deal of stock, when it was demonstrated that the plank roads were not suitable to southern climate, and they were abandoned. The Air Line road was the outcome of this movement, and the charter was obtained in 1856.

"This charter was obtained after great difficulty by a sort of accident. The Georgia and Central roads were just then all powerful in Georgia. A movement was made at the same time we moved for the Air Line, to get a charter for a road from Warrenton to Macon. The Georgia and Central folks helped us with the Air Line charter in the hope of killing the Warrenton charter. When this object was removed they fought the Air Line bitterly and with the coming on of the war, succeeded in defeating its building for a time. After the war it was organized under our old charter and put through in the manner that is familiar to our people."

As Mr. Norcross said, the Georgia Air Line Railroad was incorporated by an Act of the Georgia Legislature, approved March 5, 1856. All of the incorporators were citizens of Atlanta. They were William Markham, Lemuel P. Grant, Richard Peters, Jonathan Norcross, William Ezzard, Ira O. McDaniel, John F. Mims, John Glen, Joseph Thompson, Julius A. Hayden, Green B. Haygood, A. W. Stone, B. H. Overby, Daniel Hook, Jared I. Whitaker, and Amos W. Hammond.[15]

Section IV of the Act gave the company full power and authority to survey, lay out and construct a Rail Road from the city of Atlanta, in this State, to the boundary line between this State and the State of South Carolina, in the direction of Anderson Court House in the State of South Carolina.[16]

On November 21, 1856, a memorial was received by Council from citizens asking the city to take stock in the Air Line Railroad. One week later, on November 28th, a committee consisting of Haygood, Simpson and Kile reported in favor of taking $100,000 stock in the railroad, and issuing 7% bonds for it.[17]

Definite action was taken by the Council of 1856 on January 6, 1857, just before it went out of office. An ordinance was passed providing that the City of Atlanta shall take $100,000 stock in the Air Line Railroad Company, one percent to be paid now, and when $750,000 other bona fide stock is subscribed, the city to take the remaining $99,000, issuing therefor 7 percent bonds to mature $33,000 in 1873, $33,000 in 1878, and $33,000 in 1883, payable at the City Treasury, the whole amount of the city's stock and credit of city being pledged to their redemption.[18] In spite of this forward looking action of Council, many citizens were skeptical of the line ever becoming anything more than a paper railroad.

In April, 1858, the Air Line applied to City Council for the first installment of the city's subscription, whereupon an argument arose as to the amount of other subscriptions claimed by the railroad. Council was firm in its determination to abide by the original terms of its subscription, and on May 13th said in substance: "While it was never the intention of the city to build the Georgia Air Line Railroad alone, it was nevertheless its settled policy to assist in the work of construction to the full amount of its subscription, reserving to itself the right to withhold further aid when the conditions on which the subscription was made had not been complied with." The Council declared its earnest friendship for the road, and its warm desire for its success. To the stockholders along the line of the road it said once for all: "We are with you in this work, ready to comply when others have fulfilled."[19]

The Georgia Air Line Railroad did not prove to be of the paper variety, and Atlanta did her part in aiding in its construction. But for the breaking out of the war, then so imminent, the actual work of construction would have been begun several years sooner.

Steps were taken late in 1856 to augment the rather modest fire-fighting facilities of Atlanta when, on the cold, rainy night of Friday, December 10th, some fifteen men met in the Masonic Hall at Loyd and Alabama streets to organize another company. Most of them were skilled mechanics who worked in the Georgia Railroad shops. William Barnes was elected chairman of the meeting and C. C. Rodes acted as secretary. Present were the Messrs. Barnes and Rodes, James E. Gullatt, Hamilton Crankshaw, Leaver Richardson, G. W. T. Allen, D. A. Crockett, Frank T. Ryan, D. C. Kelly, Moses B. Crawford, John H. Spann, Richard Saye and Albert and Leonard Bellingrath.[20]

Before the meeting adjourned it determined to organize "Mechanic Fire Company, No. 2," and adopted therefor the motto, "The Public Good Our

Only Aim."[21] It was not long before the new company was fully recruited, at which time a meeting was called for the purpose of electing officers, with the following result: William Barnes, president; William Rushton, vice-president; Leaver Richardson, first director; John G. Hoyt, second director; James M. Toy, third director; John M. Spann, fourth director; Charles C. Rodes, secretary; James E. Gullatt, treasurer; Wilson Hackett and D. C. Kelly, axmen, and Joshua Gilbert, M.D., surgeon. These officers, together with privates, brought the total membership to 50.[22] Upon petition by Overby and Bleckley, attorneys, a charter was granted to Mechanics Fire Company, No. 2, by Judge O. A. Bull of Fulton Superior Court on April 8, 1857.[23]

The company adopted a distinctive uniform, the fatigue being an oilcloth cape thrown across the shoulders, which cape bore in bold letters the company name and number. The uniform was completed with the regular fireman's hat or helmet. The dress uniform, for parades, balls and extra occasions (the volunteer fire companies were semi-social organizations) was a gray dress coat; brass buttons bearing name and number; black pants, black belts and fireman's helmet, all of which, to use a member's expression,[24] "had a tendency to make one look tastily draped."

Soon after its organization Mechanics No. 2 acquired a lot on the east side of then Collins, now Washington Street, just north of St. Phillips Episcopal Church and on an embankment overlooking the Georgia Railroad and its round house and shops. An engine house was erected on this lot which served the company during its entire existence.[25] The company's engine was manufactured by Hammond of Boston and was built to very rigid specifications. Before its arrival the men of No. 2 were called upon to assist those of No. 1 in connection with a large daytime fire on Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell streets. Nearly an entire block of wooden stores was consumed before the combined efforts of both companies, one sans an engine, could get the blaze under control. It was No. 2's baptism of fire.[26]

Mechanics Fire Company No. 2 was divided into four equal squads under the command of a director. Each squad was required to serve a month, during which time the care of the engine and house was looked after by that squad. In case of fire it was in charge of the hose-reel and directed the streams of water. As most of the members were skilled workmen, machinists, blacksmiths, moulders, locomotive engineers, painters, etc., and as each member took a pride in keeping things in shape, everything about the engine house was always in first-class order. One of the rigid rules was that there should be no loitering on Sunday, consequently there was never a noisy, boisterous crowd in the vicinity of the engine house on that day.[27]

During the year 1856 the "Kansas Question", as the "Freesoil" agitation in that territory was called in the South, was at its height, and no city in Georgia took a livelier interest in its admission to the Union as a slave state than did Atlanta. At that time parties of Southern emigrants were continually passing through Atlanta for the "bleeding" territory, intent on turning the political scale in favor of slavery, or in taking a hand in the "subsequent unpleasantness." Large crowds would meet these Kansas emigrants at the depot to cheer them on, and often to contribute to their necessities.[28]

The territory about to be admitted to the Union would hold the balance of power between the pro-slavery and anti-slavery states, and it was highly essential, from the viewpoint of the South, to redeem enough Kansas counties to turn the balance in favor of slavery. Boisterous Kansas meetings, addressed by fervid and fire-eating orators were of almost nightly occurrence in Atlanta during that summer.[29]

The local newspapers devoted much editorial and news space to the Kansas question, and every few days would chronicle the passing of a Kansas-bound party through the city. The *Daily Intelligencer* of March 29, 1856, said in an editorial paragraph:

> "Judging from the number of companies passing almost daily through our city on their way to Kansas, we doubt not that there will be a 'smart sprinkling' of Southerners in that interesting region before many weeks. On Saturday night a company of eighteen or twenty passed through Atlanta, and on Thursday we noticed another company of 41, all armed and equipped, going on their way rejoicing. They were from Charleston and other points in South Carolina. A company organized in this city is expected to leave in a few days."

The company referred to had been organized in March at a meeting held in the court house. It was called "The Atlanta Company of Emigrants for Kansas Territory."[30]

In the same paper, under date of April 4, 1856, the following reference was made to the departure of the Atlanta emigrants:

> "Off for Kansas! Captain Jones' company of emigrants, consisting of 21 young and able-bodied men, left this place yesterday morning for Kansas. They will probably be joined by others at Marietta, and along the line of the railroad. Captain Jones is a young man of pure stock and true grit, and we doubt not the success of himself and those under him, in the new territory, while the cause of the South will have in them true and efficient friends."

A largely attended Kansas mass meeting was held in the city hall on August 4th, the object of which was to raise funds for the maintenance of Southern emigrants in Kansas who were in need of pecuniary help, and to help in like manner new parties of emigrants that would volunteer to go and "redeem" Kansas from the abolitionists. It was explained at this meeting that Georgia was expected to look after three of the thirty counties of Kansas territory, her sister Southern states taking care of three counties each. The speakers were the leading politicians of the city and county, and the audience was worked up to a high pitch of enthusiasm by their eloquence. Two representatives of the Kansas State Colonization Society, Captain B. Jones and Captain E. M. McGhee were present and addressed the meeting. Albert C. Pulliam presided and Singleton G. Howell, brother of Clark, acted as secretary. Much stress was laid upon the importance to the South of bringing Kansas into the Union as a slave state, and one speaker went so far as to predict that failure to do so would inevitably result in dismembering the Union and probably plunge the country into civil war.[31]

This meeting resulted in a large committee being appointed, consisting of Atlantans and citizens of each Militia District of Fulton County, whose duty it should be to solicit cash contributions for the Georgia colonists in, or to go to, Kansas. The names of the committeemen are of interest as representative of citizens involved in a phase of ante-bellum excitement:

For Atlanta.	Robert M. Clarke, J. A. Hayden, C. H. Wallace, Larkin H. Davis, H. Muhlenbrink, Oliver H. Jones, Dr. R. T. Pulliam, Dr. J. A. Taylor, Col. A. H. Stokes, and Capt. G. H. Thompson.

For Blackhall District.	Thomas W Connally, Dr. J. M. Dorsey, T. J. Perkerson, Meredith Brown, and A. R. Almond.
For Buckhead District.	Col. Clark Howell, Henry Irby, Pinkney H. Randall, Bushrod Pace and M. C. Donaldson.
For Casey's District.	Hiram Embry, Nelson DeFoor, Jesse M. Cook, John J. Thrasher and Dr. N. D'Alvigny.
For Oak Grove District.	John L. Evins, John Isom, Stephen Jett, Lee Heflin and Stephen Spruell.
For Stone's District.	William A. Green, Dr. William Gilbert, William A. Wilson, Marat Megee and Thomas Kennedy.[32]

Until the admission of Kansas into the Union, the keenest interest was taken in her attitude on the slavery question by the citizens of Atlanta, and when the statehood bill was enacted in 1861, with the anti-slavery provision, the indignation of Atlanta knew no bounds.

The Fulton grand jury for the first week of the October, 1856 term, was, in its presentments, somewhat penetrating as to conditions within the county.

". . . We have examined the different Books of record kept by the various officers of the County and find them kept in a manner highly creditable to said officers. It is the opinion of this body that more competency could not be displayed in making a perfect and faithful, as well as a neat and unobjectionable record of the offices of the county, and we feel assured that the Books will form a link in the general chain of its archives that will reflect credit alike upon the county and the faithful public servants to whom this delicate trust has been committed.

"We have also examined the jail and find those confined therein as comfortable as the law would require. Its walls we consider impregnable, but the windows we consider as insecure, and would respectfully call the attention of the Inferior Court to the fact, and recommend that the jail be enclosed by a good substantial tight plank fence, not less than twelve feet high. We would respectfully call the attention of the Inferior Court to the importance of having neat and substantial blinds attached to the windows of the court room.

"We are pained to know that a portion of our citizens do not remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, but take their guns and dogs and go in pursuit of game, materially disturbing the peace and quietness of that sacred day. Due regard for the Sabbath and its christian devotions is one of the highest duties of a christian people where laws are the laws of God. When moral impulse fails to interpose for the sanctity of that holy day, the full force of the law should be brought to bear through the proper authority.

"The institution of a City Criminal Court in the City, having jurisdiction over criminal offences punishable only with fine and imprisonment in the common jail of the county, and it having been organized by the election of fearless, faithful and competent officers, is, in our opinion, a blessing and benefit, not only to the City, but the entire County, in that it relieves this court of a portion of business; relieves the county of a burdensome expense, and brings to speedy justice a class of offenders which have heretofore gone unpunished. We trust the court will be sustained and continued!

"It is a source of sincere regret to this body that so large a portion of the youth of our community have become nuisances. There are many boys of a proper age and size for school, or some honorable employment, loitering about the streets, frequently congregating about the passenger Depot in this City, and other improper places for youths, conducting themselves in, and practicing all manner of evil and idleness! Orderly and well behaved citizens are frequently the subjects of insult from that class of idle boys.

"Their mischevious designs often result in injury of property, and the means of redress, under the circumstances, beyond reach. Idle boys make vicious men, and from such an abundance of scions how can we escape an overwhelming crop of mature criminals, who will fill our jails and penitentiary, burden our criminal docket and involve our county in such expense! To punish crime is justice, but to prevent crime is virtue, and no time is so appropriate to prevent it as when the seeds are being sown, and no means so potent as the substitution of profitable employment for mischievous and profitless idleness. When poverty and idleness are found hand in hand, theft is sure to be lurking close behind. 'As the twig is bent, so will be the tree,' and if boys are encouraged and allowed to grow up in idleness and vice, how can we expect honest and virtuous men. Whether these boys have parents or guardians we know not, but if they have, such parents or guardians are culpably guilty of neglect of duty to the children or wards. If there be a remedy to this evil, we would urge its immediate application.

"It is the sense of this body that the habit of betting on elections is the source of much evil. It has become so common that mere moral restraint is inadequate, to check it, and the extent to which it is carried is alarming and greatly to be deplored. This practice or species of gambling seems as a stepping stone to that of a more pernicious character. . . . Furthermore we deem it wrong that the ballot box, which is the safeguard of our constitutional liberties, and the beauty of our republican institutions, should be converted into a mere political dice which is to decide the gaming hazard upon political results. It is fast becoming the case that the bets to be decided by an election are of more importance than the welfare of the county, and the amount of money bet upon any given candidate is not infrequently brought forward as a criterion to fortell the result. Large stakes often incite individuals to improper energies and the adoption of dishonorable means to secure the election of certain candidates. This is a growing evil, and it is our opinion that it should be checked by legislation. . . ."[33]

AUGUSTUS M. EDDLEMAN, Foreman.

John Eddleman
John Silvey
Oliver H. Jones
Wilson E. Spruell
Anderson M. Parker
Harrison Pettis
John Isom
Ezra Andrews
Pinkney H. Randall
Henry T. McDaniel
James M. Collier

James Caldwell
Hiram Casey
Thomas A. Thomas
Osborn J. Register
James R. Brisendine
John H. Jackson
Alfred W. Wooding
John Woodruff
Thomas M. Clarke
William B. Hardman
Algernon S. Robbins

Having perused the recommendations and moralizations of Mr. Eddleman (a newspaper man), and his associates, the following grand jury, after a brief paragraph relative to county records, concluded:

"Coupling precept with example, we recommend brevity in Grand Jury presentments."

DR. WILLIAM GILBERT, Foreman.

An Act of the General Assembly, approved March 5, 1856, provided for the incorporation of the Town of Lithonia in De Kalb County, and designated William Pendley, J. H. Rozan, John C. Maddox, William L. Born and John M. Born as Commissioners. The Act, among several provisions, specified that the town limits should extend one half mile in each direction from the Georgia Rail Road Depot.[34]

The Town of Lithonia is built over underlying granite beds, and all around it are extensive granite outcroppings. Hence its name is derived from the Greek word, Lithos, meaning stone.[35]

The late B. M. Johnson, of Redan, writing for the De Kalb *Standard* for May 10, 1901, has left an interesting brief account of some of the early settlers of Lithonia. It follows:

"Mr. Editor: I noticed a piece in the *Standard* from Mr. J. S. Mills telling about the great rock quarries round and about Lithonia, so I will name some of the old patriots around Lithonia. I will first mention Dave Longshore, who lived on the east side of town just over the branch, and ran a public blacksmith shop near his house. He did all the work for the people in the country. Dave was a great possum hunter and generally kept the town supplied with possums in the fall of the year. Everybody thought well of Dave, although he kept his books with a piece of charcoal.

"And there was Hamp Braswell, who kept a store just below the depot. He sold goods and kept everything straight as a shingle. He kept so busy that he missed his dinner fifty times a year. And then I see Colonel [John N.] Swift setting (*sic*) over in his veranda, cracking off jokes on everybody that passes by. Everybody liked the Colonel. And there was old Uncle Andy Wells, who for years kept the hotel in town and was a great Sunday school man. He gave a great many talks in Sunday schools and at prayer meetings. Everybody loved Uncle Andy and his wife.

"And there was old Uncle Johnnie [John P.] Marbut, who lived up the railroad and always kept a fine saddle horse. He took great pride in riding his horse down town about once or twice every day. I very often met him down at Dave Longshore's shop, and always liked to hear him talk about his clover patches and grass lots. I could mention many more of the old citizens who lived around Lithonia at that time [circa 1860] and will do so in my next."[36]

The De Kalb grand jury for the first week of the October, 1856 term closed its presentments upon an optimistic note:

"It is a source of extreme pleasure to us to be able to congratulate our fellow citizens on the almost entire absence of criminal business before our body, as a favorable index to the character of our people as good citizens and law abiding men, loving virtue and despising crime."[37]

J. B. Wilson, Foreman

James Burns
John Holcombe
George Key
John C. Roe
James W. McClain
Thomas Thompson
John Y. Flowers
Henry Sherman
James C. Avary
John C. Maddox

Alexander Chestnut
William R. Ayers
Ebenezer Tilly
Benjamin Woodson
James Smith, Sr.
David M. Shepherd
James R. McAllister
James Millican
Spencer P. Wright

Christmas day of 1856, insofar as Buckhead was concerned, was marred by its first homicide. It involved the oldest citizen and largest landowner of that section, though he was neither the victim nor the perpetrator of the deed. The principals were George W. Irby and Henry Norton.

On December 25, 1856, quite a crowd of persons were assembled at Buckhead. They were drinking, shooting powder guns, and shooting at chickens for sport. Late in the day Henry Norton and Henry Irby, the father of George, commenced quarreling about the chances in a raffle for a basket. Norton asked Henry Irby to pay in the money for his chance in the raffle. Irby said he had paid in his money, and from this the dispute waxed warm, until Norton gave Irby the damned lie twice. The parties came together for a fight, neither having weapons. Norton struck Henry Irby twice with his fist, and knocked him against a post of the piazza of a grocery. By this time Irby had Norton by the throat and Norton had Irby by the hair, and was pulling him along out of the piazza of the grocery. R. B. Hicks, the son-in-law of Henry Irby, took hold of him for the purpose of separating the combatants, and requested others to aid him in parting them.

At this point of time George W. Irby came running up to the crowd where the fight was going on, drew a pistol and fired it at Norton, the ball entering the left side of his head, in the edge of the hair. Norton died of the wound in a few minutes. Norton and Henry Irby were friendly up to the time of the fight, at which time Norton was living on the land of Irby. Norton and George Irby were also friendly up to the time of the difficulty. George was a lad of thirteen or fourteen. Norton was a quarrelsome, violent man when drinking, and was drinking on that day.[38]

A true bill, charging murder, was found against George Irby on April 9, 1857, by a grand jury of which William Markham was foreman.[39] He was tried in Fulton Superior Court before Judge O. A. Bull in October, 1860, and was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter by a jury of which John J. Ford was foreman. Judge Bull sentenced Irby to hard labor at the penitentiary for two years.[40]

Irby's lawyers, Luther J. Glenn, James M. Calhoun and Lucius J. Gartrell carried the case to the Supreme Court of Georgia on a technicality involving two of the trial jurors. The sentence of the lower court was affirmed in an opinion by Justice Richard F. Lyon, expressed as follows:

"Our compassion and sympathy have been greatly excited in favor of the accused. He is, although of sufficient age to be legally responsible for violations of the law, yet but a mere child, and the homicide committed by him was done in defence of his father. These facts, together with the earnest and eloquent appeal of his able and zealous counsel, induced us to look closely into the record, with the hope that we might find something that would justify us in sending the case back, so that he might have another chance before the country. But with all our prepossessions and anxiety in his favor we have been unable to do so. His father and the deceased were engaged in a common fist fight; no weapons were being used or threatened on either side, and while so engaged, a brother-in-law of the prisoner actually having hold of his father, trying to separate them, the bystanders not otherwise interfering or attempting to do so, the prisoner ran up and shot down his father's antagonist, without a note of warning and without the slightest necessity for so doing. The verdict was as mild as the jury could conscientiously made it."[41]

Judge Lyon's associates, who concurred, were Joseph Henry Lumpkin, of Athens, and Charles J. Jenkins, of Augusta.

Newspaper advertising directed to the citizens of ante-bellum Atlanta was entirely free of subtleties and innuendo. The simple direct approach was the order of the day. Following are some of the forthright appeals of 1856:

WHO WANTS A WELL-BUCKET OR A BREAD TRAY?

We have a superior lot of both on hand, and would like to supply all who are in need of either.

Clarke & Grubb.[42]

"LONG LOOK-FOR COME AT LAST!"

Volumes 4 and 5 of *Macauley's History of England,* just received, and for sale by

J. J. Richards & Co.

Atlanta, Ga.[43]

FOR RENT

By L. J. PARR .... Real Estate Agent

Three comfortable and convenient Dwellings, with outhouses and gardens;
A few sleeping apartments convenient to the business part of town;

And a large, pleasant room, suitable for a school room.[44]

TO PLANTERS,

Negro Shoes! Negro Shoes!

Dimick, Joyce & Co. have in store a large lot of home manufactured double sole and rivited BROGANS, warranted as good as can be manufactured, and at a lower price than the same quality of shoes can be bought in this city, or as low as can be bought in any city in the State.

At the sign of the Big Boot, Peachtree Street.[45]

NOTICE

All persons indebted to Hunnicutt & Silvey, by note or account, will please call and settle, or they will receive a special call from JOE.
Atlanta, Dec. 5, 1855.

HUNNICUTT & SILVEY.[46]

TWO desirable dwelling houses, on Decatur Street, near Wm. H. Harvill's, for sale low for cash, or on short time; A negro woman will be received in part payment for one of them. Inquire of

L. J. PARR, Real Estate Agent.[47]

T. DOONAN

Warehouse & Commission Merchant

Atlanta, Georgia

HAVING rented that spacious, Fire-Proof Warehouse, recently erected on Whitehall Street, will attend to the storage and sale of Cotton, Corn, Lard, Bacon, and all other produce with which he may be favored. Having had long experience in the general trade of Georgia, he flatters himself that he can give satisfaction in the sale of all produce, and also in the purchase of all articles which the country may require.

T. DOONAN.[48]

VALENTINES

IN EVERY SHAPE AND VARIETY, adapted particularly for this 14th February, "Leap Year."

Purchasers will do well to examine the large assortment for sale by the subscriber, where they will find the best assortment ever offered in this city, from 6¢ to $10. A large lot for sale at Kay's Cheap Bookstores, Atlanta, Ga., orders from the country attended to promptly.

By Addressing,

WILLIAM KAY.[49]

GAS FITTING

THE subscriber would respectfully inform the citizens of Atlanta that he has just received from the North, a large number of gas piping and fittings, with a full set of tools necessary to fit up Churches, Dwellings, Hotels, Stores, and all other buildings in which Gas may be desired.

As the Gas Works are already well advanced, and will, as we are reliably informed, be ready to supply the citizens with Gas on Christmas eve, it behooves all who intend to introduce it, to have it done at an early day.

All work done will be subject to the inspection and approval of Mr. Helme, the contractor; and as I have employed the best of workmen, I hope to be able to give entire satisfaction.

JOHN TOMLINSON.[50]

$50 REWARD

RANAWAY on the 2d of January, from my premises in Atlanta, my Negro Boy CHARLES. Said boy is a carpenter by trade, is left handed, very black, 6 feet and 1 inch high, weighs about 175 pounds. He is a tall, straight, polite spoken, and generally fine looking negro. He was raised in Savannah. The above reward will be paid for his delivery to me, or $25 for his delivery in any jail so that I can get him.

D. DEMAREST.[51]

TONSORAL SALOON

THE subscriber has opened first door below the Lottery office within ten steps of the Trout House, the most comfortable

BARBER SHOP

in the city, where gentlemen can be accommodated with everything desirable in his line. His operatives are careful and experienced, and his razors are always in order. In addition to his shop he has added a fine suit of

BATH ROOMS,

with all the appliances for Warm, Tepid, Shower and Cold Baths.

These rooms are superior to any in the city, and the reduction of his price for all kinds of Baths to

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

places him beyond competition not only in elegance but in price. Call and see his establishment.

JOHN THE BARBER.[52]

GREAT BARGAINS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Or exchange for likely Negroes; in the City of Atlanta, on Peach Tree Street and Whitehall Street. T. Kile will show the property.

Address John J. Ford, Atlanta, Ga., or L. Fields, Fields × Roads, Georgia.

FORD & FIELDS.[53]

A number of useful citizens residing in and about Atlanta were called from their labors by the grim reaper during 1856. Among this number were Addison Dulin, John F. Mims, Edward A. Vincent, Reuben Haynes and John F. Adair.

Dulin, a bachelor, was born in Mecklinburg County, North Carolina, and came to Atlanta in 1846. He began buying cotton upon his arrival and became a leading merchant of the town. He died in May, 1856, at the early age of 33, and is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[54]

John F. Mims, native Georgian, ex-mayor, banker and public spirited citizen died at 41, leaving a widow and several children. His home occupied the present site of the old Constitution Building, southeast corner Forsyth and Alabama streets. His monument at Oakland Cemetery is inscribed.[55]

IN MEMORY
OF
JOHN F. MIMS,
BORN NOV. 10, 1815
DIED APRIL 30, 1856.

FAITHFUL TO MAN
WE COMMIT HIM TO GOD.

ERECTED
BY
THE ATLANTA & LA GRANGE R. R. CO
As A GRATEFUL MEMORIAL
OF
HIS ENERGY, EFFICIENCY & FAITHFULNESS
UNDER ALL THE TRUSTS
CONFIDED TO HIM

Edward A. Vincent, an Englishman by birth, map maker, civil engineer and architect, settled in Atlanta during the early 1850's. Not long after the completion of his major local monument, the commodius brick railroad passenger depot, he passed away at 27 in November, 1856, and is buried in an unmarked grave at Oakland Cemetery.[56] His modest estate was appraised January 13, 1857. The appraisal is an interesting contemporary document. It follows:[57]

1	Set plotting instruments	Appraised to	$ 10.00
	Pocket county maps	Appraised to	30.75
1	Lot writing paper	Appraised to	.75
1	Lot matches	Appraised to	.35
1	Lot books	Appraised to	25.00
1	Looking glass	Appraised to	.25
1	Tin case	Appraised to	.50
1	Set gold studs	Appraised to	3.00
1	Shoe brush	Appraised to	.10
1	Iron paper holder	Appraised to	.25
1	Piece lead	Appraised to	.15
1	Pocket knife	Appraised to	.50
1	Lot county maps, unframed	Appraised to	.50
1	Table	Appraised to	.25
1	Watch	Appraised to	100.00
1	Transit	Appraised to	100.00
1	Map of the World	Appraised to	10.00
1	Map of the United States	Appraised to	5.00
1	Map of Georgia	Appraised to	2.00
1	Map of Florida	Appraised to	1.00
3	Maps of Macon	Appraised to	1.50

4	Maps of Atlanta	Appraised to	2.00
1	Map of the U. S., small	Appraised to	.50
1	Map of Petersham	Appraised to	.50
17	Maps of different counties, Ga.	Appraised to	8.50
4	Split bottom chairs	Appraised to	2.00
1	Arm chair	Appraised to	1.00
1	Bed & bedding	Appraised to	10.00
1	Traveling blanket	Appraised to	5.00
1	Map Savannah	Appraised to	.50
1	Wash stand	Appraised to	1.00
2	Trunks	Appraised to	5.00
1	Bucket, foot tub & dipper	Appraised to	.50
1	Tin bathing tub	Appraised to	1.00
1	Surveyor's chain	Appraised to	5.00
1	Tape line	Appraised to	.50
1	Valise	Appraised to	.50
1	Umbrella	Appraised to	.50
1	Pocket yard measure	Appraised to	.25
1	Desk with drawer	Appraised to	2.00
1	Table	Appraised to	.50
1	Chess table	Appraised to	.50
1	Set chess men	Appraised to	1.00
1	Lot empty bottles	Appraised to	.50
1	Lot wearing apparel	Appraised to	5.00
2	Oil cloth window curtains	Appraised to	.50
	Amt. cash in bank	Appraised to	127.50

THOMAS KILE
THOMAS L. COOPER } Appraisers.
E. B. REYNOLDS

E. N. CALHOUN, Adm^{r}.

Among the books of the deceased, *Alarm to Sinners* was sold to Z. Jones for 10¢; *Vision On Hell* was knocked down to John Bedford for $1.90, while *Fashion and Famine* and *The House of 7 Gables* were acquired by S. B. Hoyt for $1.60.[58]

Reuben Haynes, for whom Haynes Street is named, was born in North Carolina in 1800 and came to Atlanta during the late 1840's. He was a skilled carpenter and cabinet maker by trade, and in religious faith, a staunch Methodist, being a Sunday-school teacher at the time of his death on November 12, 1856. In common with so many of Atlanta's pioneers, he rests at Oakland Cemetery. One of his daughters, Francis G., married, in 1860, Captain William Sprague Everett, in after years senior member of the wholesale dry goods firm of Everett-Ridley-Ragan Company.[59]

In 1854 Dr. James Corbin Avary, formerly of Columbia County, Georgia, bought a farm in the Panthersville District of De Kalb, eight miles from Atlanta on the Decatur-McDonough Road. At that time his son, the late Dr. Arch Avary was a lad of seven, and one of his earliest recollections of the De Kalb farm concerned a visit from Uncle "Jackie" Adair. Dr. Avery said:[60]

"We had not been there long when late one afternoon father and I went out in front and we saw, slowly coming up the road, a little red wagon with a cover and a little old mule pulling, and a little gray-haired and gray whiskered man driving. My father hailed him for a chat. He said he was known as Uncle Jackie Adair; that his mule was thirty-two years old and he was loaded with Mexican yams; that he was going to camp about Sugar Creek, so as to reach market early the next morning. My father insisted on his spending the night, bought his load of potatoes, and they talked all night. Uncle Jackie was loved and respected by all, and he and my father remained close friends."

Uncle Jackie, by full name John Fisher Adair, was the founder of a later day well known Atlanta family, and was the father of Col. George W. Adair (1823-1899). John F. Adair, a man of marked individuality, was born in Laurens District, South Carolina, December 3, 1785, and came to De Kalb County from Morgan County, Georgia, in 1825, settling on South River five miles from Decatur. He was a man of fine constitution, good health, and great physical strength and activity. He was never excelled in the use of the common axe, broadaxe, or scythe, and was a wagon maker by trade. Of rigid moral character, Mr. Adair never used liquor, tobacco or profanity. He was a man of moderate education, but read a great deal, and was intelligent and humorous.[61]

John F. Adair was married first to a Miss Brantley, in 1810, who died young, leaving one child who did not long survive her. He was married again to Miss Mary Slaven, of Wilkes County, in 1814. She became the mother of George W., and of Rev. Thomas Owen Adair, a minister of the Methodist Protestant Church, and early Atlanta schoolmaster. Uncle Jackie was again left a widower in 1835. He survived until April 16, 1856, and, with his second wife, lies buried under a marble obelisk in his family cemetery. This small burial ground is in a wooded tract bounded by South Candler (McDonough) Road, White's Mill Road, and Flat Shoals Road, in the Panthersville District of De Kalb County. The obelisk was erected many years ago by the late Col. George W. Adair in memory of his parents.[62]

NOTES—CHAPTER 34

[1] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 179.

[2] Reed, *Atlanta,* 49; Isaac W. Avery, *The History of the State of Georgia From 1850 to 1881* (New York, 1881), 43. Hereafter cited as Avery, *History of Georgia.*

[3] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[4] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899, p. 579.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 48.

[7] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1856, Book A.

[8] Until this bridge was built (at Roswell) a couple of years later, the Chattahoochee, in the Atlanta area, was unbridged except by the W. & A. R. R., at Bolton. All other crossings were by ferry.

[9] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1856", *A.H.B.,* XIV, 218, *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 48-49.

[10] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 128.

[11] *Ga. Laws,* 1855-1856, p. 66.

[12] Reed, *Atlanta,* 424; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 138; *City Directory,* 1859, p. 25.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 424.

[14] Atlanta Constitution, June 12, 1881.

[15] *Ga. Laws,* 1855-1856, p. 165.

[16] *Ibid.,* 166.

[17] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 49.

[18] *Ibid.,* 50.

[19] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 141.

[20] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 166.

[21] *Ibid.,* 167.

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] Minutes S. C., Fulton, Apr., 1857, Book B.

[24] Frank T. Ryan in *Pioneer Citizens' History,* p. 167.

[25] *Ibid.; Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate A. It was a replica of this engine house that is pictured in the motion picture "Gone With the Wind."

[26] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 168.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 129.

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] *Ibid.,* 131.

[31] *Ibid,* 132.

[32] *Ibid.* With name elaboration and corrections by the present writer.

[33] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1856, Book B.

[34] *Ga. Laws,* 1855-1856, p. 359.

[35] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 20.

[36] A search of the existing files of the *De Kalb Standard* by the present writer did not disclose further letters from Mr. Johnson.

[37] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1856, Book C.

[38] 32 *Ga. Reports,* 496.

[39] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1857, Book B.

[40] *Ibid.,* 1860, Book C.

[41] 32 *Ga. Reports,* 498.

[42] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Feb. 1, 1856.

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] *Ibid.*

[45] *Ibid.*

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] *Ibid.*

[48] *Atlanta Daily Examiner,* Feb. 10, 1856.

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] *Ibid.*

[51] *Intelligencer,* Feb. 1, 1856.

[52] *Examiner,* Feb. 10, 1856.

[53] *Ibid.*

[54] *Pioneer Citizens History,* 388; "Garrett's Necrology".

[55] "Garrett's Necrology".

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] Fulton County Inventory & Appraisement Book A.

[58] *Ibid.*

[59] "Garrett's Necrology".

[60] "Reminiscences of Dr. Arch Avery," *A.H.B.,* IV (Dec., 1930), 28.

[61] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 27, 1873.

[62] *Ibid.*; "Garrett's Necrology".

CHAPTER 35

1857

ON a hot summer afternoon in June, 1857, thirty-six year old Judge Joseph Emerson Brown, of the Blue Ridge Circuit was helping his hands to cut wheat in his field on Town Creek near Canton in Cherokee County. About sundown he went home and was shaving and preparing to wash for supper, when Col. Samuel Weil, an attorney, then of Canton, but with the Judge, to become a future resident of Atlanta, rode rapidly up to the house on horseback. Said Weil excitedly, "Judge, guess who is nominated for governor of Milledgeville?" Brown guessed that John E. Ward had been the successful nominee. "No," said Col. Weil, "it is Joseph E. Brown, of Cherokee." Col. Weil had been in Marietta when the telegram came announcing Brown's nomination.[1]

Brown had indeed received the Democratic nomination in one of the hardest fought convention battles in Georgia history. His opponent, in the race for governor was thirty-four year old Benjamin Harvey Hill, nominee of the American or Know-Nothing Party, and also a future resident of Atlanta.

The personality of the Democratic candidate of 1857 illuminated the attitude of the poorer class of white citizens in the state. He was born in Pickens District, South Carolina, in 1821, but in early youth moved, with his parents, to Union County, Georgia, a mountain region remote from centers of culture and out of touch with the current of politics. The slender resources of the family made it necessary for the future governor to lend a hand in the work of the farm, and, when quite young to plow behind oxen, the chief motive power of the region. Attaining the age of 19 with only the rudiments of an education, he set out, at that time, for Dr. Waddell's School in South Carolina, carrying with him a yoke of steers as part payment for tuition and board.[2]

Young Brown proved to be an excellent student, and was afterwards able to borrow money for a law course at Yale College. After graduation he returned to Georgia in 1846, and began practice in Cherokee County. During 1849-1850 he represented his District in the State Legislature. Born and reared without the personal service of slaves, he yet became a strong supporter of the institution of slavery and stood firmly for the rights of the South.[3]

The nomination and election as governor (57,568 to 46,828 for Hill) of a man with Joseph E. Brown's background, was in its moral effect, similar to the accession of Andrew Jackson to the Presidency in 1828. A shock to the aristocratic régime in Georgia, it placed at the helm of the State a man who was in close touch with what would now be called "the common man". It also added to the group of official leaders a strong thinker, with a new point of view and useful fresh ideas.[4] Brown was destined to remain in the governor's chair until 1865 and to guide his State through a deadly and destructive war.

It was also during the panic year of 1857 that an illustrious Georgian attained cabinet rank. Howell Cobb, of Athens, was appointed Secretary of the Treasury under President Buchanan.[5]

The panic itself was touched off by the failure on August 24th, of the Ohio Life and Trust Company and had its inception in speculation following the discovery of gold in California, together with overcapitalization and over building of railroads. On October 14th there was a general suspension of specie payment by banks.[6]

Happily for the South, the financial stringency was much more active in the northern states. The cotton crop for the year was exceptionally large, and the price high, due to a brisk demand for the staple from abroad. Southern banks were generally able to avoid suspension of specie payments, with the result that merchants in the South, including those of Atlanta were not affected by the tight money market. It is not remembered that any Atlanta merchant failed during the panic. As a matter of fact Atlanta merchants owed less than their brethren in the North. The custom of dealing for cash, established by the early local merchants was still being largely followed, for limited capital made it mandatory. The granting of wide credit would have invited speedy insolvency. Cash and small profits enabled Atlanta to weather the hard times of '57 with but little damage.[7]

It has been noted previously that Dr. John G. Westmoreland defeated Basil H. Overby for Fulton County's seat in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1857. He served through 1858. Jared I. Whitaker represented Fulton in the State Senate contemporaneously. De Kalb sent Thomas Akin to the Senate and James J. Diamond to the House for the same term. Akin was a Decatur merchant and Diamond a Stone Mountain lawyer.[8]

Fulton County, on January 12, 1857, acquired a new Inferior Court when Justices Cornelius R. Hanleiter, Zachariah A. Rice, Solomon K. Pace, Jethro W. Manning, and William A. Wilson were commissioned.[9]

By Act of the Legislature on December 18, 1857, the new County of Milton was created from parts of Cherokee, Forsyth and Cobb, thereby providing Fulton County with a new neighbor to the north. The name of the new county represented a somewhat belated honor to John Milton, Georgia's first Secretary of State, a faithful public servant to whom is due the preservation of the official records of the State during the Revolution.[10]

Alpharetta, the name having been coined from the first letter of the Greek alphabet, was made the county-seat. It was incorporated December 11, 1858, with Oliver P. Skelton, P. F. Rainwater, J. J. Stewart, Thomas J. Harris, and Oliver P. Childers, as commissioners.[11]

The line between Milton and De Kalb, and Milton and Gwinnett counties was defined by the Legislature of 1859 in the following language: "Beginning at the [Chattahoochee] river where Fulton and De Kalb counties corner, and running the line between said counties to the ridge or Martin Ferry Road, near the house of James Ball, thence along said road to the ford where said road crosses Crooked Creek, thence down said creek to the Chattahoochee River, the line between Gwinnett and Milton counties; and the territory embraced within said lines shall be hereafter in the County of Milton."[12]

Milton County, throughout its entire existence of 75 years was primarily agricultural. It never did have the advantage of railroad service and, together with Campbell County to the South, was merged with Fulton on January 1, 1932.

The Mayor and Council of Atlanta for 1857 were able men. William Ezzard was re-elected and thereby became the first individual to hold the office for two consecutive terms. Councilmen were:

First Ward: W. W. Sharp and William C. Lawshe.
Second Ward: L. C. Simpson and Henry C. Holcombe.
Third Ward: John B. Peck and John Glen.
Fourth Ward: William T. Farnsworth and John Farrar.
Fifth Ward: Dr. James Alexander and I. O. McDaniel.[13]

Officers chosen by this Council were: James McPherson, clerk, tax receiver and collector; Cicero H. Strong, treasurer; William S. Hancock, superintendent of streets; Willis P. Lanier, first lieutenant of police; Daniel C. Venable, second lieutenant of police; John D. Wells, clerk of market; G. A. Pilgrim, sexton, and H. L. Currier, city surveyor.[14]

The sums of money handled by our ante-bellum city fathers were not large, compared with present day transactions and budgets, but to them, and to the youthful city, fully as important. Following is a statement showing the condition of Atlanta's finances as of January 23, 1857:

Unpaid checks issued prior to Jan. 24, 1856	$3,498.98	
Unpaid checks issued since that date	473.28	
Coupons due Jan. 1, 1857	227.50	
	———	$4,199.76
Checks, Mechanics' Fire Company		1,000.00
Bonds for city hall, due Jan. 1, 1863		16,000.00
Bonds for Gas stock, due Jan. 1, 1871		20,000.00
Bonds for Fair lot, due May 1, 1863		6,000.00
Bonds for Chattahoochee bridge, due Jan. 1, 1877		3,000.00
Contract for 25 lamps for lighting streets		500.00
(Order placed with Winship & Bro.)		———
Total indebtedness		$47,699.76
Cash in the treasury		1,383.99
		———
Net indebtedness of the city		$46,315.77[15]

By late 1857 it was deemed advisable, because of the rapid growth of the city, and in the interest of safety, to establish fire limits. This was accomplished by an ordinance adopted December 7th, which provided, "that after its passage, no person should erect, or cause to be erected any house for any purpose whatever, the walls of which should be constructed of wood, on any street within the following limits:

"On Whitehall Street, between the intersections with that street of Mitchell and Marietta streets; on Mitchell, Hunter and Alabama streets at any point between Loyd [Central Ave.] and Forsyth streets; on Pryor Street between Alabama and Mitchell streets; on Decatur Street west of Collins [Courtland] Street; on Marietta Street east of Market [Broad] Street; on Market Street south of Walton Street; on Peachtree Street from Marietta Street to the junction of Market and Peachtree streets."[16]

On December 21st, Council passed an ordinance forbidding any person discharging fire arms within 200 yards of any residence, and another providing for the opening of Houston Street from Pryor to Peachtree Street at Wesley Chapel.[17]

The year saw continued evidences of growth for Atlanta, the site of which a mere twenty years earlier had been distinguished by nothing more than a civil engineer's bench mark for the future terminus of a railroad. During '57 the town acquired another Masonic Lodge, an additional newspaper, a Y.M.C.A., and first steps were taken for the establishment of a rolling mill.

Atlanta Lodge No. 59 and Fulton Lodge No. 216, are the two oldest Masonic Lodges in Atlanta and Fulton County, the former being the Father and the latter the Mother Lodge. Fulton Lodge was named from the county in which it originated and, after working for a short time under a dispensation, received her charter from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia on October 30, 1857.[18]

First returns of the new Lodge were made to the Grand Lodge on August 31, 1857 and read as follows:

Luther J. Glenn, W.M
David Mayer, S.W.
William Rushton, Treasurer
S. Frankford, S.D.
S. B. Love, J.W.
B. F. Bomar, Secretary
Z. A. Rice, J.D.
J. G. McLin, Tiler

Master Masons—L. H. Davis, T. M. Darnall, S. Solomonson, R. J. McMaster, A. N. Wilson, Wm. Watkins, C. H. Chandler, A. W. Mitchell, John Glen, P. E. McDaniel, L. Loventhall, A. K. Evans, J. I. Whitaker, N. A. McLendon, I. O. McDaniel, J. F. Reese, E. B. Walker, J. E. Williams, L. Bellingrath and A. K. Avery.

Initiated,	14
Passed,	10
Raised,	9
Dues paid Grand Lodge,	$14.00
Total membership,	28

As long ago as 1924 the membership of Fulton Lodge No. 216 had grown to 600.[19]

Cornelius R. Hanleiter, the indefatigable journalist, re-entered the local newspaper field on March 12, 1857, when he established the *National American,* he just having taken over the outfit of the defunct *Weekly Republican and Discipline.* Hanleiter was assisted in the editorial conduct of the new paper by D. F. J. Robinson and J. S. Peterson. The paper was issued weekly and tri-weekly until 1858, and daily from then until February 12, 1861. At that time its name was changed to *Gate City Guardian* because of Georgia's secession from the union. Associate editors of the *Guardian* were Josiah S. Peterson and J. S. Slaughter. In March, 1861, George W. Adair became associated with Hanleiter, and Thomas C. Howard and R. H. Crawford were engaged as co-editors. The *Guardian* was an impersonal journal and the names of its writers were not known to the general public.[20]

The Young Men's Christian Association was founded in London, in 1844, by George Williams, a dry goods clerk, for the "improvement of the spiritual condition of young men in the drapery and other trades". Similar associations were first established in North America at Montreal and Boston, in 1851, and from that time the movement developed rapidly.[21]

An Atlanta unit of the Y.M.C.A. was organized in late 1857 with Basil H. Overby as first president and Nathaniel J. Hammond as first secretary and treasurer. Both of these gentlemen were lawyers. When Overby's health failed, resulting in his death in 1859, Hammond became president, Algernon S. Talley, then a dry goods clerk became secretary, and Moses Cole, also a dry goods clerk, working at the time for Beach and Root, was elected treasurer. The association had rooms in a building on the east side of Whitehall Street between the railroad and Alabama Street, and, at the height of its prosperity had about 200 members. When the war began, attendance became irregular and the association was disbanded for the duration, most of the young men having gone into the Confederate Army. A. S. Talley took charge of the books, which unfortunately were burned in his room in Beach and Root's building when the city was burned in 1864.[22]

An abortive attempt to establish a rolling mill in Atlanta was made by a Dr. Douglas in 1857. He secured land and had some grading done, which operations apparently consumed all of his capital. In January, 1858, Lewis Schofield, one of the best rolling mill men in the South, together with James Blake, of Indianapolis, took over, built a mill and put it into operation. It was located on the south side of the Georgia Railroad at the present Boulevard underpass, and occupied some of the ground now incorporated in Oakland Cemetery, and part of the site of the Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills.

Within a few months William Markham was induced to buy an interest and the enterprise was operated for several years as "Blake, Schofield & Markham, Proprietors Atlanta Rolling Mill." The business of the mill was confined at first to re-rolling railroad iron, but after the war commenced, operations switched to war material, including cannon, iron rail, and heavy plates to cover gunboats for the Confederate Navy. It is said that the plates for the noted Confederate iron-clad, *Merrimac* were rolled here. In 1863 the business was acquired by Trenholm, Frazer & Company, of Charleston, and was thereafter known as the "Confederate Rolling Mill." It was completely destroyed by the Federal Army in 1864, and was never rebuilt on its original site.[23]

It is interesting to note in this connection, that the present Boulevard, after its opening north of the railroad in the late 1860's was called Rolling Mill Street until about 1880.[24]

That St. Philip's Episcopal Church was growing and becoming an important factor in the religious life of the community is indicated by the fact that on June 7, 1857, Judge O. A. Bull of Fulton Superior Court, passed an order incorporating "The Church Wardens and Vestry of St. Philip's Church, Atlanta," and granting a charter for fourteen years. Those signing the petition, as wardens and vestrymen, were: Dr. Needom L. Angier, Dr. Hilliard L. Currier, Dr. Thomas S. Denny, David N. Judson, Austin Leyden, Thomas W. McArthur, Stephen B. Oatman, William P. Orme, Richard Peters and James E. Wiliams. Certainly a more substantial group of citizens could not have been assembled. Rector of the Church at this time was Rev. Richard Johnson.[25]

The presentments of various Fulton County grand juries during 1857 provide some interesting vignettes of the time. Comments offered by the jurors for the first week of the April term covered county finances, roads, the jail and public morals.

". . . The County Treasurer reports the following amounts received and disbursed, to-wit: Amount received, $9,467.98. Amount paid out on jail [for construction], $4,279.50. Amount paid out on County, $2,263.17; Paupers, $641.93; Jury, $982.03; De Kalb County, $427.95; Commissioners, $473.39. Total, $9,467.93. [Leaving a balance of 5¢.]

"We find the roads in our county generally in good condition. We would recommend however that the commissioners be required to have the roads posted, and finger boards put up at the forks of the public roads. We find the jail wholly unfit for the safe keeping of prisoners. We would call the attention of the Inferior Court especially to the condition of the windows, as it is almost impossible to keep prisoners by any means where the grating on the windows is so wide that any kind of instrument may be handed in to them.

"The few cases of a criminal character that have come before our body causes us to congratulate our Fulton citizens upon the increasing moral health of our society. . . ."

WILLIAM MARKHAM, Foreman.[26]

Prior to 1857 it was impossible, in Fulton County, to escape from the responsibilities of society by "going over the hill to the poorhouse", for such an institution did not exist. That a need existed, however, was put forward by the grand jury for the second week of the April term:

". . . The subject of the poor in our county is one that demands consideration and action. The central position of the county, together with the usual facilities of access from every direction has tended, and continually tends to concentrate here many who are unable to provide for their own support, as well as many, who, though able to work, are far from willing, so long as they can drag out a pitiful existence upon the charities of the public. The children of many of these run the streets without control or restraint, and are growing up in idleness and vice, and promise for the future an abundant crop of candidates for our jails, penitentiary, and the gallows. We have no reason to expect any amelioration of this condition without judicious and energetic means being adopted with a view to its accomplishment.

"As a practical remedy for this state of things, we earnestly recommend the Inferior Court at as early a day as possible, to make the necessary arrangements for the establishment of a County Poor House, to be located at some point contiguous to Atlanta, with sufficient grounds attached to afford employment to all inmates who may be able to contribute anything in the way of work to their support, and the establishment to be under the immediate management of an efficient and reliable Superintendent. This policy, while it is calculated to effect a truly moral and benevolent purpose in affording a comfortable home for the indigent and homeless, will also accomplish a great social good by relieving the community to a great extent of the evil effects of the numerous young vagabonds growing up in the streets.

"The policy recommended will also, in the opinion of this body, be a measure of practical economy in dollars and cents. For if we can profit by experience of the places where such establishments have been long and thoroughly tested, we are justified in the expectation, that with proper organization and judicious management, it will easily be made a self-sustaining establishment. . . ."[27]

Robert M. Clarke, Foreman

William B. Ruggles
Larkin H. Davis
George W. Collier
Francis M. Eddleman
Oliver G. Kile
Harrison Pettis
James Caldwell
Wm. Gadsen Forsyth
William Watkins
John F. Albert
Edwin G. Collier
Jacob M. Johnson
William W. White
Uel L. Wright
John Tomlinson
Hiram Casey
William H. Harvill
George Booth
Felix Sowers

The next jury, serving for the third week of the same term, covered, among other subjects, those of record inspection and roads and bridges:

". . . We are satisfied that Grand Juries have heretofore been in the habit of making only a superficial examination of the books of the county, and beg leave to suggest that more attention be paid to this matter in the future. It is clear to our minds that something more is necessary in these investigations than the mere statements that the records are 'kept in a neat and businesslike manner', the matter being of more importance than the *manner.*

"We have to report, as being in a very unsafe condition, the bridges over Peachtree Creek known as Chandler's Bridge on Pace's Ferry Road, and the one over Nancy's Creek on the road leading from Atlanta to Roswell. We also find that the roads from the corporation line [city limits] on each of the new and old Whitehall Streets in bad condition."[28]

C. R. Hanleiter, Foreman.

Schools and roads elicted the following from the grand jurors serving for the first week of the October term:

". . . We have examined the list of children entitled to the benefit of the poor school funds. We have erased some names because we did not think they were entitled, and others who had moved away. We have added some, and regret to find the number so large. We cannot forbear expressing the hope that the time is not far distant when some general system of common schools will be devised whereby the means of education will be placed within the reach of every poor child in the State.

"The Roads and Bridges of our county are in good order excepting Chandler's Bridge over Peachtree Creek, which is unsafe, and that portion of the Green and Nelson Ferry Road from Dr. Ledbetter's to the district line, being in Blackhall District, and the road from Mr. H. H. Embry's to Grogan's Mills. . . ."

Marat Megee, Foreman.[29]

The public-spiritedness of Thomas Moore is indicated by the presentments for the second week of the October term:

"We present the Bridge across Peachtree Creek known as Collier's Bridge, as being in bad order. We recommend the Inferior Court to have a bridge built across Peachtree Creek at Moores Mill. Mr. Moore is willing to pay one half for the building of same. . . ."

Clark Howell, Foreman.[30]

Over in old De Kalb, roads and the emptiness of the jail were two subjects presented by its grand jury during October, 1857.

". . . We find the roads generally in good order, with the exception of the roads in Decatur District leading from Decatur to Stone Mountain, Covington and Fayetteville; also the road leading from the Lawrenceville Road to the old Peachtree Road leading by Henderson's Mill. We especially call the attention of the proper authorities to the same. We have examined the Jail and finding no one therein, are in hopes there will be no further use for it, the same not being a safe one.

"We further recommend to the proper authorities to notice that portion of the road leading from Decatur to Flat Shoals, where it crosses the Rail Road near the Depot, the same being obstructed by wood and otherwise. Also the different Public Roads of this County to be furnished with Mile posts and sign Boards. . . ."[31]

James W. Crockett, Foreman

Samuel C. Clay
William R. Brandon
Asa W. Howard
Charles W. McGinnis
John M. Ridling
William Crowell
Robert Baxter
Rufus A. Henderson
William D. Wright
James J. Ragan
James F. Stubbs

Solomon E. Jordan
William Mosely
Benjamin Crowley
John W. Scruggs, Sec.
Micajah Hamby
Starling Goodwin
Floyd F. McAlpin
John Jett
John G. McWilliams
Zachariah R. Jones
Daniel McNeill

The year 1857, like those preceding and those to follow, took its toll of pioneer citizens. Among them were Michael Lynch, Michael McCullough, and Joseph A. Thrasher.

Michael Lynch was the oldest of the five Lynch brothers, originally of County Meath, Ireland, four of whom settled in Atlanta in 1847, and the fifth soon afterward. Michael was a merchant and built the first house in what was so long known as the Lynch block—now occupied by Hurt Park in downtown Atlanta. He died December 13, 1857, aged 47, and is buried at Oakland Cemetery.[32]

Michael McCullough was also a native of the Emerald Isle. As one of Atlanta's original Catholics, it was in his home on what is now Central Avenue near Hunter Street, that the first local mass was said. Most of the attendants were railroad Irishmen. Mr. McCullough died in July, 1857, at the age of 47, and, like his contemporary, Mr. Lynch, is buried in Oakland.[33]

Joseph A. Thrasher, subject of the first memorial upon the Minutes of Fulton Superior Court,[34] was a younger brother of J. J. "Cousin John" Thrasher. He was born in Morgan County and reared in Newton. Choosing the law as a life work, he was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1849. In 1851 he was elected Solicitor General of the Flint Circuit, and after serving his four-year term moved to Atlanta and became a member of the local bar. He died at 32. leaving a widow and three small children. The box-tomb, marking his grave at Oakland Cemetery is inscribed:[35]

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
JOSEPH A. THRASHER:
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE, IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA
ON THE 27TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1857.
AGED 32 YEARS, 1 MONTH & 2 DAYS.

HE WAS A KIND HUSBAND, AN
AFFECTIONATE FATHER, AN USEFUL
CITIZEN, AN HONEST MAN, AND
A DEVOTED CHRISTIAN.

Another useful citizen was lost to the community when Simon Frankfort, a pioneer Jewish merchant closed out his dry goods and clothing business on October 1st, and moved to New York City to engage in the commission business.[36]

Happily for Atlanta, good citizens were arriving while old ones were departing. Of the names added to the local roster in 1857, two were particularly outstanding—Edward Everett Rawson and Dr. Thomas Spencer Powell.

Rawson was a "Green Mountain Boy", having been born in 1818 in the heart of that section of Vermont, at Craftsbury. In 1837, soon after the death of his father, he left home and joined his older brother William A., in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia, where the latter was in business. After clerking for William about four years, he entered the dry goods business on his own account at Lumpkin. He built up a lucrative business and while there, in 1846 was married to Elizabeth, a daughter of Judge James Clarke, also a future Atlantan.[37]

Mr. Rawson moved to Atlanta during 1857 and entered the hardware business as senior member of the firm of Rawson, Gilbert & Burr. Not long afterward he purchased the beautiful and commanding home-site of James T. Doane, who was moving to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Doane property comprised the square block bounded by Pryor, Formwalt, Rawson and Clarke streets, the latter two having been named for Mr. Rawson and his father-in-law, respectively. In 1859 Mr. Rawson built, upon this land, and facing Pryor Street, a spacious home known as "The Terraces," for years a show place of the community. The house stood on the crest of a terraced hill. That the terraces were carpeted the year round in green sod was a triumph for the Scotch gardener who laid out and cared for the grounds. An unusual collection of conifers and topiary work executed in box and euonymus, vied in interest with a well designed box garden. On the southern outskirts of the town when built, "The Terraces" eventually became a town estate, and was occupied by the Rawson family until 1890. The future career of Edward E. Rawson will be touched upon in succeeding chapters.[38]

Dr. Thomas S. Powell (1824-1895) was a native of Brunswick County, Virginia, and after graduating with first honors from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, settled in Sparta, Georgia, to practice medicine. It was through the influence of Dr. Powell that Dr. John G. Westmoreland, then a representative from Fulton County, was able to get a bill passed in 1857, securing a grant of $15,000 to the Atlanta Medical College. Because of this aid Dr. Powell was invited to speak at the closing exercises of this institution on September 3, 1857. The Faculty and Board of Trustees were so impressed by his splendid address, the title of which was "The Moral Duties of a Physician," that he was invited to take a chair on the Faculty of the College. Dr. Powell accepted, and moved to Atlanta in 1858. His name was to loom large in the subsequent medical history of Atlanta.[39]

Early in May, 1857, the Mayor and Council received invitations to attend the celebration on the 28th, 29th, and 30th, of the opening of the just completed Memphis & Charleston Railway. The Memphis & Charleston, the Nashville & Chattanooga, the Western & Atlantic, the Georgia and the South Carolina Railroad Companies extended an invitation to citizens, giving free passage.[40] It was in connection with these celebrations that Atlanta received the appellation, "Gate City." Judge William Ezzard, then mayor of Atlanta relates the story:[41]

> "The name of the 'Gate City' was given to Atlanta in Charleston in 1857, and it came about in this way: When the road was completed connecting Charleston with Memphis, the people of Charleston put a hogshead of water from the bay on the car, and their fire engine and went on with them to Memphis and carried the water there for the purpose of mingling the waters of the Atlantic with the Mississippi. They took the fire engine for the purpose of mingling the waters of the Mississippi with the waters of the Atlantic. They arrived here [Atlanta] about 12 o'clock. I was then Mayor of the city and we gave them a reception and prepared a handsome collation for them. They seemed to be very much pleased with the treatment they received.
>
> "The next morning they left for Charleston, and with them myself and a large number of ladies and gentlemen from this city. We arrived in Charleston and had a grand time there. We paraded there and marched down to the bay, and there went through the ceremony of pumping this water from the Mississippi into the ocean. Many people were present from all portions of Georgia and South Carolina. There was a grand banquet given by the people of Charleston. Everything was well arranged. There was a committee appointed to prepare toasts for the occasion. There was a toast drafted for Savannah, one for Macon, one for Augusta, one for Atlanta, etc.
>
> "The toast prepared and given for Atlanta was: 'The Gate City, the only tribute which she requires of those who pass through her boundaries is that they stop long enough to partake of the hospitality of her citizens.' That was the substance of the toast, although I do not remember the exact language. After that Atlanta was always called the 'Gate City,' and it never was known as that before. I responded to this toast for Atlanta. It was given I suppose from the fact that this railroad had just been constructed through the mountains for the purpose of connecting the West with the Atlantic Ocean, and there was no other way to get to either place except to pass through Atlanta."

It is interesting to note here that in 1857, when the Memphis and Charleston was completed, its General Superintendent, with headquarters at Huntsville, Alabama, was Frederick C. Arms, formerly of the engineering staff of the Western and Atlantic, first postmaster of Marthasville, and creator of Atlanta's first real estate subdivision.[42]

NOTES—CHAPTER 35

[1] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 37.

[2] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 180-181.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.,* 182.

[5] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 127.

[6] *Ibid.,* 127-128.

[7] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 133-134.

[8] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, pp. 322, 337; *ibid.,* 1927, pp. 473-474; "Garrett's Necrology".

[9] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[10] Knight, *Landmarks,* I, 786.

[11] *Ibid.,* II, 876.

[12] *Ga. Laws,* 1859, p. 271.

[13] *Annual Reports, Atlanta,* 1899, p. 579.

[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 76.

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] *Ibid.,* 78.

[17] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 51.

[18] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 34.

[19] *Ibid.* With some name corrections by the present writer.

[20] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," 24, 30.

[21] *The Lincoln Library of Essential Information* (Buffalo, N. Y., 1924), 2054.

[22] Reed, *Atlanta,* 404; *City Directory,* 1859.

[23] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 115-116, 119; Stephens Mitchell, "Atlanta, the Industrial Heart of the Confederacy," *A.H.B.,* III (May, 1930), 22; *City Directory,* 1859.

[24] City directories, 1870-1880.

[25] Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip,* 17.

[26] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1857, Book B.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.* "Old Whitehall" is now Peters Street.

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1857, Book C.

[32] "Garrett's Necrology."

[33] "Mrs. Cannon's Recollections," *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 30, 1888; "Garrett's Necrology."

[34] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1857, Book B.

[35] "Garrett's Necrology."

[36] Announcement, *Atlanta Daily Examiner,* July, 1857.

[37] Reed, *Atlanta,* part II, 117.

[38] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 354; Loraine M. Cooney, comp. and Hattie C. Rainwater, ed., *Garden History of Georgia, 1733-1933* (Atlanta, 1933), 118. In its latter years "The Terraces" was designated as No. 283 South Pryor Street. This number last appears in the *City Directory* of 1890.

[39] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 690; Gregory Murphy. "The Controversy Between Dr. T. S. Powell and the Faculty of Atlanta Medical College," *G.H.Q.* (Sept., 1940), 236.

[40] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 50.

[41] *City Directory,* 1871, p. 26.

[42] "Garrett's Necrology."

CHAPTER 36

1858

THE year 1858 was relatively devoid of political excitement in Georgia. It was a period of reflection; and reflection brought determination. While there were differences of opinion in unimportant matters, the people generally were of only one mind on the vital issues of slavery and State rights. The sectional feeling grew very strong. The antagonism between the North and the South was partially smothered by the Compromise of 1850, but flared out afresh when the Kansas question arose, and was thereafter steadily aggravated by the course of events.[1]

Feeling in the North was epitomized by two men, soon destined to occupy the center of the national stage. Abraham Lincoln, having accepted the Republican nomination for senator from Illinois, said during one of his historic debates with his opponent, Stephen A. Douglas, on August 21st: "This government cannot endure permanently half-slave and half-free." Two months later, William H. Seward, speaking at Rochester, New York, declared: "We are engaged in an irrepressible conflict. We must become either an entirely slave holding nation or entirely a free labor nation."[2]

The subject of free versus slave labor bubbled to the surface publicly in Atlanta on March 5, 1858, when the following memorial, signed by some two hundred citizens, was presented to Council:

> "We, the undersigned, would respectfully represent to your honorable body that there exists in the city of Atlanta, a number of men who, in the opinion of your memorialists, are of no benefit to the city. We refer to negro mechanics whose masters reside in other places, and who pay nothing to the support of the city government, and whose negro mechanics can afford to underbid the regular resident citizen mechanics of your city to their great injury and without benefit to the city in any way; we most respectfully request your honorable body to take the matter in hand, and by your action in the premises afford such protection to the resident citizen mechanics of your city, as your honorable body may deem meet in the premises, and in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray."[3]

The neighboring county of Clayton was created from parts of Henry and Fayette counties by Act of the Legislature dated November 30, 1858, and was named for Judge Augustine Smith Clayton (1783-1839), of Athens, a noted ante-bellum jurist and statesman. Jonesboro was made the countyseat, and was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature, approved December 13, 1859. The following citizens were named commissioners: James B. Key, Sanford D. Johnson, G. L. Warren, Joshua J. Harris, W. H. Sharp, R. K. Holliday, and James Alford.[4]

The original name of Jonesboro was Leaksville, but the coming of the Macon and Western (C. of Ga.) Railroad in the middle 1840's, gave rise to increased civic pride, and, as a compliment to one of the builders of the line, Samuel G. Jones, the town was called Jonesboro. Mr. Jones subsequently lived in Atlanta for a short time and was one of its pioneer Episcopalians. He was the father of the late Governor Thomas G. Jones, of Alabama, afterwards a United States District Judge. One of the strongest advocates of the measure creating Clayton County was twenty-three-year-old Walton County representative George Hillyer, just entering public life. He was later to become a noted citizen of Atlanta.[5]

Both Fulton and DeKalb counties acquired some new talent in their respective courthouses during January, 1858. Seymour B. Love succeeded Thomas J. Perkerson as sheriff of Fulton; B. F. Bomar succeeded William R. Venable as Clerk of the Superior Court, and Columbus M. Payne bowed out as Clerk of the Inferior Court in favor of Daniel Pittman. A. R. White replaced Moses Holland as coroner and J. C. Farrar became surveyor, vice James Bartlett. The new tax receiver was Andrew J. Collier, a younger brother of John and Wash. W. F. Wingfield assumed the duties of tax collector.[6]

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

The Ante-bellum home of Lemuel P. Grant (1817-1893), donor of L. P. Grant Park to the city. The home was built about 1858 and is still standing, minus porches and trees, at 327 St. Paul Ave., S.E. Photo made, 1938

In DeKalb, John Y. Flowers, of Cross Keys District, took over the sheriff's office; Robert M. Wilson became coroner, and James M. Reeve, also of Cross Keys, succeeded John C. Ragsdale, of Diamond's District, as tax receiver.[7]

Some new faces also appeared in Atlanta's city hall by virtue of a city election held in January, 1858. Luther J. Glenn, who succeeded William Ezzard as mayor was a forty-year old attorney, recently of McDonough, Georgia. He was born in Washington County near Sandersville in 1818 and graduated from the University of Georgia with second honors in 1842. Shortly thereafter he married Miss Mildred Cobb, of Athens, sister of Generals Howell and Thomas R. R. Cobb. With his bride he moved to Henry County and established a law practice. He represented Henry in the Legislature three times. Sometime after moving to Atlanta, in 1851, he formed a law partnership with the noted Lucius J. Gartrell.[8]

The Council elected to serve with Mayor Glenn was composed of:

First Ward—F. H. Coleman and John Collier.
Second Ward—William Rushton and Thomas F. Lowe.
Third Ward—James E. Williams and J. M. Blackwell.
Fourth Ward—John H. Mecaslin and George S. Alexander.
Fifth Ward—Hayden Coe and Julius A. Hayden. Alexander resigned June 4, 1858, and was succeeded by William T. Wilson in July.[9]

The various city offices were filled as follows: Clerk, Clement C. Howell, son of Isaac Howell of Cobb County and co-proprietor of the Green and Howell's Ferry across the Chattahoochee. Treasurer, Philip E. McDaniel, a younger brother of Ira O. McDaniel. Marshal, E. T. Hunnicutt. Deputy Marshal, Willis Carlisle. Lieutenant of Police, George W. Anderson. Clerk of Market, E. B. Reynolds. Street Overseer, Thomas G. W. Crusselle. City Surveyor, H. W. Fulton, and Sexton, G. A. Pilgrim.[10]

A variety of business, exemplified by Council Minutes, occupied the attention of the city fathers of 1858.

Insofar as the record shows, Mayor Glenn was the first to appoint regular standing committees of council. They were:

On Finance.—Collier, Williams and Hayden.
On Streets.—Alexander, Lowe and Coe.
On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Williams, Rushton and Hayden.
On Relief.—Coleman, Lowe, Williams, Alexander and Coe.
On Wells, Pumps and Cisterns.—Rushton, Mecaslin and Blackwell.
On Cemetery.—Blackwell, Lowe and Coleman.
On Market.—Lowe, Coleman and Collier.
On Ordinances.—Collier, Coe and Williams.
On Lamps and Gas.—Hayden, Mecaslin and Rushton.
On Police.—Lowe, Blackwell and Alexander.
On Fire Department.—Mecaslin, Rushton and Hayden.
On Free Schools.—Hayden, Collier, Rushton, Mecaslin and Williams.

Feb. 5.—Board of Health appointed consisting of Drs. T. S. Powell, J. F. Alexander, B. O. Jones, T. C. H. Wilson and Judge Jared I. Whitaker. At the same meeting Wilson J. Ballard and F. F. Smith were elected to police the passenger depot, the railroads agreeing to pay their salaries.
Feb. 5.—The Justices of the Inferior Court of Fulton County asked Council for a conference in regard to care of paupers in the County Poorhouse.
Feb. 19.—Dr. James M. Morris elected City Physician.

Mar. 5.—E. W. Holland, having been fined $10. in each of two cases for allowing his slaves to live on separate lots from him, appealed from Mayor Glenn's decision to the full Board of Council. The fines were not only approved, but increased to $20. in each case.

Mar. 19.—An ordinance was passed prescribing a severe penalty for defacing tombstones in the cemetery [Oakland].

Thomas Kile paid $400 for ground necessary to extend Houston Street from Pryor to Peachtree.

April .—Edward Everett invited to come any time and deliver an oration on Washington.

May 6.—Houses of ill fame declared a nuisance, and fine of not exceeding $50 prescribed for violation of ordinance.

June 25.—By resolution of Council, Mayor Glenn appointed Messrs. John Collier, Basil H. Overby, W. Pinckney Howard, Sidney Root, Nedom L. Angier, and Bolling Baker, a delegation to attend the convention of Episcopal Bishops at Bersheba Springs, and in the name of Atlanta to offer a bonus of $25,000 in money and a site of 1000 acres of land within three miles of the city, provided the location of the (Episcopal) University of the South could thereby be secured. Note:—The University of the South was chartered January 6, 1858. The efforts of Atlanta to secure its location were unavailing. The school was, and is, located at Sewanee, Tennessee.

July 9.—A resolution by Councilman Williams was adopted, to reimburse Fire Companies Nos. 1 and 2 the expense of entertaining Macon Fire Company on the 5th inst. Sidewalks were ordered laid, at the expense of land owners, on Peachtree from Norcross corner [First Nat'l. Bank site] to Walton Street; on Marietta, from Kile's corner [William-Oliver Bldg. site] to Wadley (now Forsyth) Street, and on Decatur, from Peachtree to Ivy.

July 16.—Over 20 persons petitioned Council to make Crew Street passable. The Marshal reported that the discrepancy in his accounts was caused from the fact that he had given away dog collars to the poor.

July 23.—Council received the following note:

"Gentlemen:

Your petitioners would respectfully ask that your body pass an ordinance all owners of cows and cattle to have the same stabled at night. As there are many Citizens of the City who are greatly annoyed by cows lying around their gates and Lots—And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

(Signed) O. H. Jones & others."

Soon thereafter an ordinance was passed requiring cattle to be kept up at night.

Aug. 20.—Well to be dug on City Hall lot.

Aug. 27.—Alabama Street to be filled with broken rock sufficient to prevent mud in winter.

Refuse of Trout House to be put in tubs and hauled out of City instead of emptied in back yards or streets. Railroads directed to keep Whitehall crossing properly.

Sept. 24.—Citizens petition to name street leading south from Georgia Railroad round-house to corporate limits, Washington Street, which was granted. Signers to this petition were: Sidney Root, James Clarke, Edward E. Rawson, John Rhea, John D. Wells, William M. Williams, W. G. Berry. Thomas Henderson, Jesse C. Farrar, G. A. Burkhardt, Michael Bloomfield, Dr. Thomas S. Powell and Alexander N. Wilson.

Oct. 29.—No wagon yard to be less than 100 feet from any house without consent of owner or occupant.

Nov. 5.—Simeon Kennedy took pen in hand, and directed a letter to Council:

> "Gentlemen:
>
> I have to inform you that I live on Cain Street intercepted by brooks and rivulets. Void of access to my house I need not give you a detail of my difficulties. Mr. [Wm. T.] Wilson knows the labyrinth I am in.
>
> Yours respectfully."[11]

Nov. .—Cost of Broad Street Bridge, rebuilt by William McConnell, $3865.50.

Dec. .—City invited to share County jail as police headquarters, to help guard it.[12]

The growth of Atlanta continued at a rapid pace. During 1858 nineteen substantial brick stores, some quite pretentious, were erected. One of this number was that of Jonathan Norcross, begun on the site of his pioneer frame store, and finished the following year while across the street on Peachtree, in the angle between Decatur and Edgewood (then Cherokee Street) George W. Collier began a three story brick structure on the site of his frame store and former post office.[13]

The Council committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, James E. Williams, Chairman, William Rushton and Julius A. Hayden, accomplished a useful piece of work in 1858. They were instructed to confer with Dr. John W. Lewis, superintendent of the W. & A. Railroad and ask the privilege of converting the open square north of the passenger depot and bounded by it, Decatur, Pryor and Loyd streets, into a public park. Permission was granted after the City agreed in writing that the railroad and the State of Georgia, relinquished no claim and granted no right that would compromise the title of the State to the property.[14]

The area was thereupon beautified with a lawn, and rude benches were placed in the shade of the fine trees which adorned the lot. This original city park remained a favorite resort of the people of Atlanta until it was destroyed in the holocaust of war six years later.[15]

Atlanta did not acquire a comparable downtown oasis until the opening of Hurt Park in 1940.

Of Atlanta's several ante-bellum churches, only two, the Church of the Immaculate Conception and the Central Presbyterian, remain upon their original site, though neither building ante-dates the war of the 60's. Since 1854 the Methodists and Baptists had boasted two separate churches in Atlanta, each being represented on both the north and south sides of town. The Presbyterians attained similar status in 1858.

The Presbytery of Flint River called a meeting in Atlanta during February, 1858, during which it decreed that the Atlanta Presbyterian Church should be divided and two churches formed. One group of 57 persons assumed the name of the "First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta." The retiring party, under leadership of J. L. Rogers, their chosen pastor, sold their share of the original church property to those remaining, and selected a site for a church building on South Collins (soon to become Washington) Street, between Hunter and Mitchell streets, facing the City Hall. This site, being Lot No. 1, Block 12, was purchased from Michael Bloomfield, a pioneer Irish stonemason, on June 4, 1859 for $1100.[16]

Charter members of Central Presbyterian were:

Moses Cole
Dr. J. P. Logan
Mrs. Ann E. Logan
Dr. John R. Rhea
James Craig
William P. Robinson
George Lyons
Mrs. Jane Gill
Mrs. W. L. Calhoun
A. W. Stone
William Forsyth
Mrs. Wm. Forsyth
Mrs. A. W. Stone
Mrs. Corley
Mrs. Mary Parr
Mrs. Anne Hanleiter
Mrs. Laura Grant
Mrs. Mary E. Combs
Mrs. Jane Crew
Mrs. Fannie S. Wallace
Mrs. Martha Boyd
John N. Beach
Mrs. Sarah J. Rhodes
Mrs. John N. Beach
Mrs. Margaret Boyd
Mrs. DuBose
Mrs. McGuire
Mrs. Emily Rogers
*Miss Mary Calhoun
Mrs. Calderwood Shaw
Mrs. Whitney
Mrs. Georgia O. Alexander
Thomas M. Clarke
Dr. Joseph Thompson
Mr. Mackey
*Miss Frank Whitney
Mrs. Laura Ripley

* Miss Calhoun became Mrs. Nathan Massey and Miss Whitney, Mrs. Charles W. Hubner.[17]

The new church was constituted February 11, 1858, and organized on the 14th, with Dr. J. P. Logan and John R. Rhea, ruling elders, and George S. Thomas and William P. Robinson, deacons.[18] It was incorporated by O. A. Bull, Judge Fulton, Superior Court, on April 6, 1859, with Joseph P. Logan, Amherst W. Stone and J. N. Beach as Trustees.[19]

Until their building could be constructed the members of Central Presbyterian held services in the City Hall across the street. The church building was completed in February, 1860, and was dedicated March 3 by Rev. J. C. Stiles, D.D. The new edifice was a square brick building, its portico supported by six Corinthian columns. The belfry, with latticed windows, was surmounted by a graceful spire. Holding a weathervane, atop the spire was a brass ball, inside of which was a parchment inscribed with the names of Central's 39 original members.[20]

Rev. John L. Rogers, first pastor of Central, was considered one of the most astute parliamentarians in the church. As a preacher, he was magnetic, eloquent and logical. He served until May 20, 1863. Rev. R. Q. Mallard took over in the fall of that year, serving until September 27, 1866. He was reared in the atmosphere of old Midway Church in Liberty County, Georgia, and was a man of striking personality. With many of his communicants he left to serve the Confederacy and was taken prisoner, but returned to his post after Appomattox.[21]

While the new Central Presbyterian Church was not destroyed during the war, it suffered considerable damage. The basement, used as a Sunday School, was converted by Federal troops into a slaughter house. The upper church was strewn with debris of the army of occupation, quartered in tents on the City Hall grounds across the way, while the facade was damaged to some extent by shell fire.[22]

The original church building was outgrown by 1883, in which year it was torn down to make way for the present modified Gothic structure, completed in the fall of 1885. During the 1883 wrecking process the weathervane and brass ball, containing the original membership list, were lost. The deep-toned bell which hung in the belfry of the old building was last rung in 1864 to warn the inhabitants of the approach of the Federal Army. The situation inspired the bell ringer to such violence that the bell was cracked and never sounded again. However it was removed to the tower of the present church where it hung, historic but mute, until 1929 when it was removed and sold for scrap. Ironically, the damage done to the belfry cost more to repair than the bell brought as scrap.[23]

Two of Atlanta's most venerable organizations date from 1858, the Hibernian Benevolent Society and the Old Guard.

Organizer of the former was Bernard T. Lamb, a clerk in John Ryan's dry goods store and a native of Ireland, as was his employer. The Society was originally founded to aid Irish emigrants in Atlanta. It gradually grew into a mutual aid society, but for many years past it has functioned solely as a social organization. Other Irish societies in Atlanta have flourished for a time and withered away. But this society lives on from year to year revitalizing itself perpetually at the spring of good fellowship and good citizenship. It has held its regular annual meeting every St. Patrick's day since its organization. Present membership is about 300. Thomas J. O'Keefe, well-known Atlanta electrical contractor, is president.[24]

As far back as the memory of Atlanta citizens go, whenever Memorial day rolled around or historical tablets or memorials were erected, there was always the Old Guard in the foreground, their bearskin shakes and their brilliant uniforms giving color and dash to the occasion.

This notable military organization, woven into the warp and woof of Atlanta's history, came into being on January 8, 1858, and was given the name of Atlanta's recently acquired cognomen, "Gate City." The first meeting place was in a second story room of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company's building, on the present site of the Peters Building. An election for officers resulted as follows:

George Harvey Thompson, Captain
William L. Ezzard, 1st Lieutenant
S. W. Jones, Sr. 2nd Lieutenant
John H. Lovejoy, Jr. 2nd Lieutenant
John T. Lewis, Ord. Sergeant
Wilson J. Ballard, 2nd Sergeant
Willis P. Chisolm, 3rd Sergeant

J. H. Purtell, 4th Sergeant
Thomas M. Clarke, 1st Corporal
James E. Butler, 2nd Corporal
Ed Holland, 3rd Corporal
Joseph Thompson, Jr., 4th Corporal
Dr. James F. Alexander, Surgeon
Daniel Pittman, Secretary and Treasurer
M. O. Markham }
J. Edgar Thompson } Markers

Privates

Margenius A. Bell
David W. Brown
J. M. Blackwell
A. J. Buchanan
G. W. Burr
M. N. Bartlett
Thos. M. Beaumont
E. A. Center
A. G. Chisolm
J. L. Crenshaw
R. W. Craven
W. B. Cox
J. L. Cutting
P. N. Calhoun
D. H. Connally
Philip Dodd
Vines Fish
F. S. Fitch
R. A. Fife
T. P. Fleming
F. W. Farrar
John Ficken
H. H. Glenn
Henry Gullatt
Zach Gatewood
Elias Holcombe
C. R. Hanleiter
W. G. Herndon
Albert Howell
F. E. Henson
John Haslett
C. A. Haralson
W. H. Hulsey
R. O. Haynes
L. L. Jones
Warren Jourdan
T. C. Jackson
Marion Jackson
James F. Jackson
James H. Johnson
Peter F. Jones
Harry Krouse
O. G. Kile
J. J. King
Austin Leyden
James W. Loyd
James M. Love
William Mims
R. F. Maddox
H. A. Mitchell
N. A. McLendon
John McLendon
James H. Neal
A. J. Orme
David Prince
C. A. Stone
P. M. Sitton
W. J. Tanner
Joe B. Tanner
Robert Winship
George Winship
Frank Watkins
David Young
W. F. Peck[25]

The membership was representative of the best element of Atlanta's citizenship. The uniform of the company was a remarkably brilliant one, being dark blue, with dark epaulettes and trimmings, edged with gold. The hat was a black French shako, with drooping white plume. The service uniform was gray. The company, even in ante-bellum times, were well drilled, and noted for their proficiency in the manual of arms and company movements, and were the favorite corps of gala festivities.[26] Three years after its organization the Guard was to have its mettle tested in mortal combat.

The Fulton County grand jury for the second week of the April, 1858 term commented interestingly on general conditions:

". . . The peculiar condition of our country and the developments that are being made, open before us a wide field for reflection. The pecuniary embarrassment that has pervaded the country, has seemed to open wide the flood gates of vice and immorality, in the midst of which the hand of a kind Providence has not been withheld, and we, as a community, have been a sharer in both. In the former to more than our hearts content, and in the latter until it brings us under renewed obligations to the great ruler of the universe.

"We fully concur with the grand jury of last week in the opinion that the roads in the county are generally in very bad condition, and especially the Nelson Ferry Road, the McDonough Road, and the road leading to Campbellton. Many of the roads seem not to have been worked at all, and those that are worked have been so very sparingly.

"The Ordinary has kindly furnished us with his report upon the poor school fund, from which it appears that the amount assessed last year for that purpose has reduced the amount due from that fund so that a much less tax would have sufficed for this year. But by an act of the last Legislature, teachers of the children entitled to the benefit of the fund are allowed the same as from other patrons. We would therefore recommend that a tax of forty percent be levied for the present year for that purpose. . . ."

William Herring, Foreman

Nicholas A. McLendon
William B. Deaton
Theophilus Harris
Josiah R. Bosworth
Riley M. Willingham
Larkin H. Davis
Charles W. Connally
Benjamin P. Rogers
James F. Jackson
Aaron K. Avery
William H. Sharp

William Watkins
Isaac Winship
Robert Crawford
John F. Ezzard
William Markham
Henry Strickland
William P. Farnsworth
Jonathan Carmichael
Gershom C. Rogers
Ephriam R. Aldridge[27]

The grand jury for the second week of the October, 1858 term pointed to lotteries as an evil influence in the community. It said:

". . . We have taken into consideration the pernicious influence of Lotteries as they exist in our midst, and respectfully request our Legislature to enact a law for their suppression, as they are calculated to produce greater injury to a community than a licensed Faro Bank in our midst. . . ."

Thomas Echols, Foreman.[28]

In October, 1856, there removed, from Washington, Georgia, to Decatur, Georgia, a citizen who has been characterized as the "Lost Poet of Georgia," the "wild Mazeppa of letters," and the "friend of Poe." Thomas Holley Chivers, poet, physician, draftsman and portrait painter was born at Digby Manor, the home of his father near Washington, Wilkes County.[29]

Following an unfortunate early marriage, Chivers, in 1828 was admitted to the medical department of Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky. He was not to follow medicine as a career, however, for when very young he developed a taste for writing. His parents being in comfortable circumstances, Chivers was reared as a Southern gentleman and soon began to give most of his time to the writing of poetry.[30]

In 1832 Thomas Holley Chivers published his first volume, called "The Path of Sorrow, or the Lament of Youth." Edgar Allan Poe was editing the *Southern Literary Messenger* in the years 1834 and 1835 when Chivers started contributing to the magazine, and it was thus that his friendship and rivalry with Poe began. The following comment by Poe appeared in *Graham's Magazine* in 1841: " Dr. Thomas Holley Chivers is at the same time one of the best and one of the worst poets in America. . . . Even his worst nonsense (and some of it is horrible) has an indefinite charm of sentiment and melody. We can never be sure there is any meaning in his words, yet neither is there any meaning in some of our finest musical airs, but the effect is the same in both."[31]

Chivers wrote to Poe protesting this criticism and sometime later received an apology and a proffer of friendship. Three years later he was to accuse Poe of stealing the theme and style of his poem and rewriting it as "The Raven." The poem to which Chivers referred in the dispute was called "To Florence Allegra in Heaven." It was an elegy to his deceased daughter and was published in 1842, only three weeks before the appearance of "The Raven." Poe claimed that the idea of "The Raven" had come to him years before and that he had been writing on it for some time, but the whole controversy is complicated by the uncertainty about the date of its composition.[32]

Sometime before his removal from Washington to Decatur, Chivers had spent a period as a resident of New Haven, Connecticut, where his presence was somewhat resented because of his status as a southern slave holder.[33] Just why Chivers elected to move from the place of his birth to Decatur is not certain; but a letter from a resident of Washington says that "he was a strange man, and here where he was born and reared, he was considered crazy." He had lived in the North too much for his fellow townsmen to be used to his ways and his personality always had been strongly marked.[34]

During his two-year residence in Decatur, Dr. Chivers lived with his family in a two-story frame house at what is now 339 East College Avenue, facing the Georgia Railroad just east of the depot. Chivers called this place "Villa Allegra," after the old homeplace in Washington.[35] Chivers' last illness came upon him suddenly. On December 18, 1858, he wrote his will, and died that night an hour after midnight at Villa Allegra, an old man before his time. He was survived by his wife, Harriett, a native of Massachusetts, and three children: Thomas H. Jr., Emma Isadore and Fannie Isobel.[36]

The will of Thomas Holley Chivers was, as indicated above, made on December 18, 1858. It was probated February 7, 1859. He named his brother, Joel R. Chivers, executor. Witnesses to the document, all Decatur citizens, were P. F. Hoyle, J. B. Wilson, T. R. Hoyle and John N. Pate. Three provisions of the will are unusual:

> Item #1. It is my desire and I do request that my body be buried on this place whereon I now live, that my grave be made in some quiet spot where my children can daily visit it. I also desire that my wife Harriett shall visit my last resting place and I wish her to carry my children there.

Item #4. I give and bequeath to my first wife Frances E. Chivers, the sum of one dollar, and to her daughter Frances Chivers the sum of one dollar, and I declare these sums to be all I intend to give them of my property.

Item #6. I desire my dear friend the Rev. John Gresham to take charge of my writings and edit my books for publication.[37]

According to tradition the first item of the will was carried out and the poet was buried by his front door step. However this may be, he now rests in the old Decatur Cemetery under a substantial box tomb surmounted by a draped urn. It is inscribed:

HERE LIE THE REMAINS OF
THOMAS H. CHIVERS, M.D.
OF HIS EXCELLENCE
AS A LYRIC POET
HIS WORKS WILL REMAIN A
MONUMENT FOR AGES,
AFTER THIS TEMPORARY TRIBUTE OF LOVE
IS IN DUST FORGOTTEN.
THIS SOUL WINGED ITS FLIGHT
HEAVENWARD
DECEMBER 19TH, 1858
AGED 52 YEARS.[38]

Oblivion swept quickly over the name of Chivers, a poet born out of time and place. Had he been of the North, the literary coteries there would surely have pruned and preserved him. Had he come but a little later, his technique would have been better, and would have found a prepared public. But time and space were against him. Then, to the aid of Oblivion came General Sherman, en route to the sea. The poet's house lay in the line of march; but Mrs. Chivers was a Northern woman, and the house still stands. It is said, however, that many of the manuscripts suffered.[39]

The marriage of Emma I. Chivers, eldest daughter of the poet was described in the *Atlanta Constitution* of September 16, 1880:

"Decatur, Ga., Sept. 15. One of the social events of the week was the marriage this evening of Miss Emma Chivers, an accomplished brunette of this place, to Mr. Jerome C. Potter, of New Haven, Connecticut. The wedding was strictly private—none but the immediate relatives of the happy bride and a few intimate friends being present. The ceremony was performed in a most impressive manner by Rev. Donald Fraser."

Thomas H. Chivers, Jr., became a merchant in Decatur, and served for a time as a local constable. He died January 7, 1892, age 38. His mother, born 1819, and widow of the poet died March 25, 1888. Both are buried in the Decatur Cemetery.[40]

The first two legal executions in Fulton County were a result of the murder of Samuel B. Landrum on April 8, 1858. Landrum, a man of about sixty and a resident of Carroll County had come to Atlanta to sell some cotton. Before returning home he decided to pay a call on A. R. Almond, an old friend, who lived several miles out on the McDonough Road. Accordingly he left Atlanta during the forenoon of Thursday, April 8th, riding in a carry-all drawn by a single mule.

Meanwhile three youths in Atlanta, John Cobb, Jr., Gabriel Jones and Radford J. Crockett had been observing Mr. Landrum's movements, and, under the impression that he had on his person $600 from the sale of the cotton, determined to follow and secure the money, committing murder if necessary. Some distance out two of the boys got in the carry-all with their victim, and, after riding awhile and being joined by the third member of their party, struck Landrum on the back of the head with slung-shot. They then carried him into the woods just beyond the present site of the Federal Prison and, for all their trouble, secured a dollar and half. Landrum had banked the proceeds of the sale.

Late the same afternoon, Landrum, fatally injured was found by Benjamin Little, Josiah Gammon and Lawrence Hutchins. He was carried to the home of Aaron Garrison not for away and, though attended by Dr. Willis F. Westmoreland, died on the Monday following.

Following the assault and robbery, Crockett struck out for his father's house in Carroll County, whence he went to Alabama, and was there captured by a policeman from Atlanta. Crockett at once told the policeman that he was on his way back to Atlanta, and made a full confession of the whole affair. He stated that he was induced to return because he could get no rest for his conscience, and was satisfied that his sins would never be forgiven unless he was hanged for his crime. His father, Robert Crockett, was an excellent man, a plain farmer, having removed from DeKalb to Carroll County. Both parents were religious people and had taken considerable care, within their means, in rearing their children.

Crockett was confined in the Fulton County jail, and upon being brought into court, was assigned Charles Murphey of Decatur, as counsel. Col. Murphey took his client into a private room, and when he returned to the court-room, his eyes were wet with tears as he announced himself ready for trial. The solicitor-general (Thomas L. Cooper) read the bill of indictment and asked young Crockett the usual question, "are you guilty or not guilty?" Immediately, contrary to the expectation of everybody, Crockett replied in a firm voice, "guilty, sir." Col. Murphey then stated to the court (Judge O. A. Bull) that he had done his best to induce his client to plead "not guilty," but that he steadfastly refused to do so, and said that he had committed crime enough, without adding the sin of lying to all that he had done. Such a scene had never before been witnessed in the Fulton County Court House. The court sentenced Crockett to be hanged and he paid the supreme penalty in June, 1858, on a scaffold erected on the site of the old Fraser Street school, corner Fraser and Love streets, Southeast.

Meanwhile Cobb and Jones had been apprehended by police officer Duke H. Branan, as they were walking along the Georgia Railroad near the Decatur depot.

Cobb stood trial separately in October, 1858, being represented by Clark & Lamar, A. W. Hammond & Son and Overby & Bleckley. Though doubtless guilty he was convicted on circumstantial evidence. When the jury, M. R. Morgan, Foreman, brought in a verdict, Cobb's eagle eye never quailed, and there was not a tremor in his muscles when the verdict of "guilty" was read. He was sentenced to be hanged, but carried his case to the Supreme Court, where the judgment of the lower court was affirmed. The sentence was carried out on Friday, July 8, 1859, at the same place where Radford Crockett had been executed the year before.

Cobb's attitude was entirely different from that of Crockett. It was that of a hardened criminal. Just before he was hanged Sheriff Love tried to have him see a minister. His reply was, "I don't want any of that damned sniveling around me." Rev. N. H. Bacon made a prayer for him just before the execution, during the delivery of which he simply bowed his head. This was the only evidence of penitence that he showed during his trial and execution. One of the early assignments of Atlanta's newly organized Gate City Guard was in connection with Cobb's execution. It had been rumored that his friends would make an attempt to rescue him from the sheriff, and the Guard was on hand as an extra precaution. Cobb's parents, who resided on Collins Street near the Georgia Railroad shops were poor, but respectable, his mother being a member of the church.

Previous to the murder of Landrum there had been a number of highway robberies committed in and about Atlanta, in which the slung-shot had figured. John Cobb confessed, just before he was hanged, that he had started to organize a band of robbers, and that he had been induced to do so from reading the life of John A. Murrel.

After the trial of Cobb, the case of Gabriel Jones was taken up. Upon the advice of counsel and friends he plead guilty with the understanding that he was to be sentenced to the penitentiary for life. He was so sentenced and remained in confinement until 1864, when shortly before General Sherman reached Milledgeville on his march to the sea, the convicts were turned loose and were enlisted in a company by themselves for service. Jones and quite a number of other convicts fought bravely in a small skirmish with Federal soldiers down the Central Railroad, but were dispersed. Jones escaped; left Georgia, and as late as 1888 was said to be living in the North under an assumed name and as a christian citizen. His father, Thomas M. Jones, known as "Commodore" was highly thought of in Atlanta, where he resided for many years.[41]

Almost down to the opening of the War Between the States general education in Georgia was regarded as little more than a commodity—to be peddled around and hawked about by wandering nondescripts, often referred to as pedagogues. While there were a few good teachers, the regulation of education was no concern of the state's. It was largely determined by the laws of competition. Indeed there were many who argued that it was no more the duty of the state to regulate education than it was to determine the number of stripes that should go into a yard of calico.[42]

During the 1850's, however, continued pressure was building up within the state for something better than a loosely handled poor school system, augmented by miscellaneous private schools to which only a small percentage of parents could afford to send their children.

By 1857 there was so much misunderstanding relative to the existing poor school laws, resulting in excluded children and unpaid teachers, that a new law was passed that year. It empowered the ordinary of each county to require justices of the peace to furnish, by the first of January, a list of poor children in their respective districts between the ages of six and eighteen. The ordinary was authorized to use his judgment in determining the justice of the claims submitted by the teachers, and if there were not enough funds in the treasury, the claims were to be prorated without regard to date. The commissioner (ordinary) was to keep account of all receipts and disbursements, to receive five percent commission on all moneys received and paid out, and to present his accounts to the grand jury whenever required.[43]

The De Kalb County grand jury for the April, 1858 term reacted to the new law in the following language:

“. . . We also request or Senator and Representative to procure an amendment of the Poor School law passed at the last session of the Legislature, authorizing the Judges of the Inferior Court to appoint a committee of suitable persons whose duty it shall be to examine the qualification of Teachers and grant certificates. And that no Teacher be permitted to draw pay as teachers of Poor Children without such certificate. We further request an amendment that no child participating in said funds be permitted to advance in any branch of study higher than Reading, Writing and Arithmetic through simple Interest. . . .”[44]

JOSEPH WALKER, Foreman

Joseph T. Bond
Samuel House
William L. Williams
James J. Winn
Reuben B. Perkins
James M. Smith
Nathan Center
Giles F. Humphries
Robert H. Smith
Albert M. Hairston
James L. Wilson
Tunstal B. George
John G. Snead
Daniel E. Jackson
Thomas J. Akins
James W. McClain
James M. McAlpin
David Chupp
John Nash
Russel W. Gaar
William L. Wood

It was apparent that the above gentlemen did not approve of higher education at public expense. At least two, Walker and Snead, had been country school teachers themselves.

Later in the year a movement looking to the establishment of a system of free public schools originated in Atlanta. Primary mover was Alexander N. Wilson, principal of Wilson's Classical and English School. Professor Wilson made a visit to Providence, Rhode Island, for the purpose of looking into its public school system. Upon his return to Atlanta he interested several gentlemen in the movement. Two meetings were held in October and resolutions were passed. However, too many individuals with diverse opinions got into the act and the matter bogged down in a welter of cross purposes.[45]

Yet before the year was out, the cause of common schools in lieu of poor schools received a stimulating boost at the hands of Governor Joseph E. Brown. The governor was from a section of the state where the facilities for obtaining even a rudimentary education were extremely meager. Indeed he had secured his own education by the sweat of his brow, and by efforts far beyond the capacity of the average young man of the North Georgia mountains.

In a vigorous address to the Legislature in November, 1858, Brown advocated schools where every “free white child” in the state would have an equal right to attend. To finance the system, he suggested the creation of a permanent education fund. The fund was to be increased as the public debt was diminished through the issuance of $200,000 in new bonds for schools in lieu of the annual reduction of the same amount of the public debt. He predicted that the school fund would amount to $4,000,000 within a few years and suggested that the interest thereon of $240,000 a year might be used to erect school houses and to pay teachers.[46]

The matter of competent teachers did not escape the governor's notice. In the same message he suggested that the state issue long-term bonds, the interest of which could be paid out of the net earnings of the state owned Western and Atlantic Railroad. The interest was to be prorated among various institutions of higher learning within the state for the purpose of properly educating young men for the teaching profession.[47]

The governor summed up, "Let the children of the richest and the poorest parents in the state meet in the schoolroom on terms of perfect equality of right. . . . In this way the advantages of education might be gradually diffused among the people; and many of the noblest intellects in Georgia, now bedimmed by poverty and not developed for want of education, might be made to shine forth in all their splendor, blessing both church and state by their noble deeds."[48]

A Fulton County grand jury, immediately following the governor's message, commented as follows, in its presentments:

". . . We cordially approve the views of his Excellency Gov. Brown in his late Message in reference to the provision to be made for the support of a system of public schools in this State. As a necessary and important adjunct to the same we recommend the establishment of one or more Normal schools for the education of teachers, as superior to the proposed appropriations to the Colleges. In the judgment of this body they will prove decidedly superior and work more harmoniously with the proposed Public School system. It will certainly secure uniformity throughout the State in teaching discipline in the schools, and in textbooks. And further, that the Legislature require of all teachers seeking tuition fees from the state public school fund to present a certificate of their general good character and qualifications from a board of Examiners appointed by the Inferior Court before they can receive the same."[49]

William H. Ferguson, Foreman

William S. Hancock	Willis Peck
James C. Davis	William J. Darby
Mathew H. Oliver	Harrison Lester
Eli M. Seago	Moses Holland
John Boutell, Jr.	Thomas M. Harris
William A. M. Green	William B. Hardman
Herman Braumuller	John J. Fain
Edward Harper	Jesse M. Cook
James A. Middleton	John B. McMichael.

While Governor Brown received considerable support in connection with his free public school proposal, the Legislature did not buy it as a package. However, on December 11, 1858, it set aside $100,000 annually from the net earnings of the Western and Atlantic Railroad to be apportioned to the white children of the counties returned between the ages of eight and eighteen years, and increased the fund as the public debt should be paid off. No uniform plan of schools was formulated, but each county was left with power and tax resources sufficient to institute common free schools. Several counties, including Fulton and De Kalb took first steps in this direction, but with the advent of war in 1861, educational progress in Georgia came to a virtual standstill for several years.[50]

Eighteen fifty-eight in Atlanta, closed with a dramatic murder, executed in something of the style of the old West, and involving an actor and a bailiff.

William A. Choice, formerly of Rome, Georgia, was probably the greatest tragedian to appear upon the Atlanta stage prior to the war. He has been described as "a tall and fair haired man of gentle blood—frame massive yet sinewy—face fine, though reddened by debauchery—eyes of blue, blazing and melting in turn—hands smooth and white and soft—voice, deep, yet rich, even melodious—mein, proud yet gracious."[51]

On the bleak night of December 30, 1858, Choice stood at the bar of the Atlanta Hotel. Bailiff Calvin Webb, a small man, entered swiftly, and gliding up to Choice shoved a bail process for $10. in favor of Dr. John W. Dowsing, into his face. Choice was unable to pay and hot words followed. Blows would have resulted had not Mayor Luther J. Glenn entered the bar at that time. He interceded and pacified Choice, meanwhile agreeing to stand security on the bail. While no further trouble ensued that night, Choice was stung to the quick by Webb's manner, and brooded for several hours. He drank to excess and finally went to his room in the Atlanta Hotel where he fell into a drunken sleep.

The next morning, a rainy Friday, Choice, somewhat sobered, arose, and, armed with pistol and umbrella, left the hotel by the railroad side, walked to Pryor Street and proceeded north along the plank sidewalk toward Decatur Street and the Trout House. About midway the block he spotted Webb on the opposite side of the street, walking south on Pryor toward the depot. The bailiff was also carrying an umbrella and was with John Cason.

As soon as Choice saw Webb he pulled his pistol, fired and missed. Webb was taken completely by surprise. Choice then cocked his pistol, stooped, placed it on his knee, took deliberate aim and fired. This shot hit Webb in the right breast near the shoulder. Webb fell, with his head in his umbrella, and died in a few seconds from a severed artery.

Choice hid in a wooden house on Decatur Street where he was arrested by Marshal E. T. Hunnicutt. After a brief incarceration in the calaboose, Choice was taken to Milledgeville for protection. Feeling ran high and violence was feared at the hands of Webb's friends, who were numerous.

Choice was indicted for murder on April 5, 1859, by a grand jury of which Dr. Benjamin O. Jones was foreman, and was put on trial before Judge O. A. Bull in Fulton Superior Court in October following. Benjamin H. Hill, chief counsel for the defense, entered a plea of insanity based upon a head injury Choice had received in Rome in 1850 when he fell from a buggy. Also, that he was under the influence of liquor when the shooting occurred.

The trial jury, of which Willis Peck was foreman, brought in a verdict of "guilty," and on October 21st, the prisoner was sentenced to be hanged on December 20, 1859. The case was carried to the Supreme Court by attorney Hill, where in a strong opinion, written by Hon. Joseph Henry Lumpkin, the judgment of the lower court was affirmed in August, 1860.

With the gallows staring his client in the face, Mr. Hill, who firmly believed in the insanity of Choice, made application to the Legislature for a pardon, which through his great influence, was granted. For the sake of consistency Choice was taken to the insane asylum, where, after remaining a short time, he was released. About that time the war broke out and Choice entered the Confederate army as a sharp-shooter. It is said that he made a brave soldier.

Nearly eighteen years after the murder of Calvin Webb, retribution finally came to William A. Choice. In November, 1876, he fell from the second story window of a livery stable in Rome, Georgia, and was killed. The tragedian died in character.[52]

NOTES—CHAPTER 36

[1] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 182-183.
[2] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 129.
[3] Reed, *Atlanta,* 78.
[4] Knight, *Landmarks,* I, 450; II, 668.
[5] *Ibid.*
[6] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.
[7] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."
[8] "Garrett's Necrology."
[9] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899, p. 579.
[10] Reed, *Atlanta,* 78; "Garrett's Necrology."
[11] Kennedy lived near the corner of Cain Street and Piedmont Avenue, then Calhoun Street.
[12] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 52-56; Barker, "Council Minutes, 1858," *loc. cit.,* 219-221.
[13] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 141.
[14] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 54.
[15] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sunday, Apr. 8, 1894.
[16] Florence W. Brine, "Central Presbyterian Church," *A.H.B.,* XIV (July, 1938), 179-194.
[17] *Ibid.*
[18] *Ibid.*
[19] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.
[20] Brine, "Central Presbyterian Church," *loc. cit.*
[21] *Ibid.*
[22] *Ibid.*
[23] *Ibid.;* "Atlanta Church Stays Put," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* May 9, 1937.
[24] "Hibernian Society Here Marks 87th Anniversary," *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 18, 1945.
[25] Henry Clay Fairman, *Chronicles of the Old Guard of the Gate City Guard, Atlanta, Georgia, 1858-1915* (Atlanta, 1915), 7-8. Hereafter cited as Fairman, *Chronicles, Old Guard.*
[26] *Ibid.,* 8.
[27] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1858, Book B.
[28] *Ibid.*
[29] S. Foster Damon, *Thomas Holley Chivers, Friend of Poe* (New York, 1930), dust jacket and p. 254.
[30] *Ibid.,* 35-36.
[31] John F. Gallaway, "Georgia's Forgotten Poet," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Jan. 12, 1930.
[32] *Ibid.*
[33] *Ibid.*
[34] Damon, *Thomas Holley Chivers,* 254.
[35] Wightman F. Melton, Georgia's Lost Poet," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* July 23, 1929. With street number correction by the present writer.
[36] Damon, *Thomas Holley Chivers,* 250, 264.
[37] Record of Wills, De Kalb County.
[38] "Garrett's Necrology." The date of Chivers' birth, according to the best available evidence, was Oct. 18, 1809. *Cf.* Damon, *Thomas Holley Chivers,* 30.
[39] Damon, *Thomas Holley Chivers,* 266-267.
[40] "Garrett's Necrology."
[41] Reed, *Atlanta,* 296-298; Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1858-1859, Books B and C; 27 *Ga. Reports,* 648; "Mrs. Cannon's Recollections," *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 30, 1888; Fairman, *Chronicles, Old Guard,* 8.
[42] E. Merton Coulter, "A Georgia Educational Movement During the Eighteen Hundred Fifties," *G.H.Q.,* (Mar., 1925).
[43] Orr, *History of Education in Georgia,* 170.
[44] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1858, Book C.
[45] Reed, *Atlanta,* 318.
[46] Orr, *History of Education in Georgia,* 171.
[47] *Ibid.;* Herbert Fielder, *A Sketch of the Life and Times and Speeches of Joseph E. Brown* (Springfield, Mass., 1883), 146-151. Hereafter cited as Fielder, *Joseph E. Brown.*
[48] Fielder, *Joseph E. Brown,* 148.
[49] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1858, Book B.
[50] Coulter, "Georgia Educational Movement," *loc. cit.,* 32-33; Fielder, *Joseph E. Brown,* 151.
[51] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 17, 1888.
[52] *Ibid.,* Nov. 26, 1876; June 11 and 17, 1888; Reed, *Atlanta,* 298-299; 31 Ga. Reports, 424; Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.

CHAPTER 37

1859

DURING a gloomy, wet spell of weather, on August 10, 1858, Atlanta played host to a convention of the "American" ex-"Know-Nothing" party of Georgia, whereat it nominated Warren Akin, of Cass, now Bartow County, to oppose Joseph E. Brown in the gubernatorial contest of 1859.

Despite the fine character and legal and speaking ability of Mr. Akin, he had, from the start, little hope of winning. Governor Brown, during his first term, had become not only the idol of the non-slave holding class, but had won great popularity with other thousands who merely appreciated efficient government. Indeed, not the least of the Governor's accomplishments was his conversion of the state owned Western & Atlantic Railroad from a condition of almost entire unremuneration into a profitable enterprise, paying over $400,000 in a single year into the state treasury, thereby mitigating tax burdens.[1]

The Governor won the election, 63,784 to 41,830, and was inaugurated in 1859 for a second term.[2]

John Collier, who fathered the Act by which Fulton County was created in 1853, was chosen to represent that county in the State Senate during 1859-1860, while John J. Thrasher, the erstwhile railroad contractor and merchant of Terminus, spoke for Fulton in the House for the same term. De Kalb was represented simultaneously by Samuel F. Alexander in the Senate and John C. Ragsdale, of Diamond's District, in the House.[3]

Atlanta, as usual around the first of each year, secured a partially new city administration. Luther J. Glenn became the second mayor to serve for two successive terms. His Council was composed of the following good citizens: First Ward—Thomas Haney and Thomas G. Healey; Second Ward—James L. Dunning and William Watkins; Third Ward—J. M. Blackwell and Coleman F. Wood; Fourth Ward—Alex. M. Wallace and Thomas R. Ripley; Fifth Ward—Bartley M. Smith and Cyrus H. Wallace.[4]

Ministerial officers for 1859 were:

Clement C. Howell, Clerk of Council and Receiver and Collector of Tax Returns.
Philip E. McDaniel, Treasurer.
Willis Carlisle, City Marshal.
Eli T. Hunnicutt, Deputy Marshal.
George W. Anderson, First Lieutenant of Police.
James M. Lester, Second Lieutenant of Police.
E. B. Reynolds, Clerk of Market.
John Haslett, Superintendent of Streets.
Hilliard L. Currier, City Surveyor.

Dr. John J. Ford Larkin H. Davis James S. Hackett	Assessors.[5]

These city fathers, like their predecessors, were called upon to handle a variety of problems which indicate what was taking place in the Atlanta of their day.

Jan. 19—City declined County's invitation to share the county jail.

Jan. 28—Mayor Glenn, in his inaugural speech, said it was important to have only "good men and true" on the police force.

He quoted the bonded indebtedness of the city as:

For Fair Grounds, due in 1860	$ 3,000
For City Hall, due in 1863	16,000
For stock in Gas Company, due in 1871	20,000
For Georgia Air Line R.R., due in 1873	5,000
For Chattahoochee Bridge, due in 1877	3,000
Total	$47,000

The mayor closed his speech with a prophecy:

". . . To the extent of my humble ability I shall at all times cordially cooperate with you in every measure, in my judgment calculated to advance her [Atlanta's] interest, enhance her prosperity, and impel our City onward and upward to that high and commanding position which she must ultimately attain among her Sister Cities of the South. At this point I might enlarge upon the advantages of the position which we as a community enjoy, but I forbear with a single remark,—Atlanta lies embosomed, as it were, diamond like, in the very center of Georgia, yea, of the South, rough and unpolished it may be, in the eyes of jealousy and prejudice, but destined under the skill and ingenuity, the energy and perseverence of her sons, to becoming a bright and glittering jewel in the diadem of Southern cities. . . ."

While the mayor lived to see the city destroyed in the chaos of war and rise again from its ashes, he doubtless foresaw, in January, 1859, a more orderly and uninterrupted growth.

Feb. 4—Fish to be retailed nowhere in the city except in the Market House, and there in only the west and north stalls. Fine of $25 for violation.

Feb. 11—Many citizens petitioned Council to require G. W. Collier to remove the scaffolding and embankments from around his new building corner of Decatur and Peachtree, "as he has had ample time to have completed the building twice over."

Feb. 18—Petitions from citizens of Whitehall Street to have two lamps between Dodd's corner (northeast corner Mitchell & Whitehall) and T. L. Lynes' new store (southeast corner Garnett & Whitehall), and red hill cut down and sidewalks perfected near Mr. Doonan's warehouse. Dangerous to travel dark nights. Street impassable.

The City poor to be furnished house and firewood at County Poorhouse.[6] Other expenses paid by City. Many applicants for relief.

Mar. 14—An expenditure of $150 was authorized on the park.

Mar. 18—Resolution adopted requiring better looking telegraph poles on Whitehall Street.

Apr. 8—Petition from Washington Street residents that street be opened and made passable.

May 6—The directors of the Air Line R.R. report to Council that work has progressed on the railroad in Hall and Hart counties, and say that the fate of the road depends on Atlanta.

An ordinance was passed imposing a tax of $200 on free persons of color, to be paid within ten days after coming to the city, if allowed to remain.

June 24—Use of the City Hall was granted to the Fulton Band for an entertainment.

July 8—A check for $15 issued to Thomas M. Jones (father of Gabriel Jones) for taking to Walton County, for interment, the remains of John Cobb, Jr., who was hanged for being one of the murderers of Landrum.

July 29—Roswell bridge, over the Chattahoochee, pays 4 percent dividend.

Aug. 5—Street Committee ordered to macadamize Alabama Street from Fulton Bank to Georgia Railroad building.[7]
Loyd Street from Ga. R.R. tracks to a point opposite Oliver Jones' livery stables.[8]
Whitehall from Ga. R.R. to Peachtree St.[9]
Peachtree to a point opposite Lovejoy's store.[10]
Marietta Street across Bridge [Broad] Street.

Aug. 26—$10,000 in bonds to be issued for streets.

Sept. 2—Paper, pens and ink to be furnished Councilmen hereafter.

Sept. 9—Request granted to I.O.O.F. Central Lodge No. 28 to hold anniversary ball and supper at City Hall.

Oct. 14—Petition that Alabama Street be changed to "Front Street" and houses numbered. Laid on table.

Dec. 9—Council passed a resolution that the Mayor execute a deed to Fire Engine Co. No. 1 lot, to revert to City when no longer used for fire purposes.

Dec. 23—$1000 paid to Patrick Lynch account macadamizing streets.[11]

The subject of slaves came before Council at least twice during the summer of 1859. On June 3rd the firm of Watkins and Rice, slave dealers, composed of William Watkins and Z. A. Rice, addressed the city government. Their communication was to the effect that in their opinion an ordinance should be passed regulating the purchase and sale of Negroes in the City of Atlanta, so as to compel non-residents to pay a tax to the city on all Negroes they might buy or sell here. The traders who belonged in the city had to pay such a tax, and it was thought by the Messrs. Watkins and Rice that non-residents should likewise pay for the privilege of trading in the city.[12]

On July 15 the white dentists of Atlanta registered the following complaint with Council:

"We feel aggrieved, as Southern citizens, that your honorable body tolerates a negro dentist (Roderick D. Badger) in our midst, and in justice to ourselves and the community it ought to be abated. We, the residents of Atlanta, appeal to you for justice."[13]

Roderick was a young mulatto belonging to Dr. J. B. Badger of De Kalb County, and had been taught to do dental work as assistant to his master. Council did nothing about the petition and Roderick D. Badger, after obtaining his freedom, became the favorite dentist of many prominent white citizens, practicing at 37½ Peachtree Street until his death in 1891.[14]

Dr. Joshua B. Badger, Roderick's old master, was born about 1792 in South Carolina and settled in Panthersville District of De Kalb County some eight miles from Decatur near Wesley Chapel prior to 1830.[15]

Apparently very successful as a dentist and planter, he built for himself and family a three-story brick home, so elegant in design and construction that it was called, in those days, a mansion. A unique winding stairway led to the upper stories. The open colonial fireplaces with their immense brass andirons gave an air of warm hearted hospitality to the large double parlors, especially when aided by the light of the flashing candelabra. The library with its varied assortment of books in heavy mahogany cases, and the sparkling cut glass on the old-time sideboard in the dining room lent an additional air of elegance.

The grounds were a dream of artistic beauty, with their rose gardens and vine covered summer houses. There was a fairy-like grotto, and here and there were marble tables which were loaded with delicious viands when outdoor festivities were in progress.[16]

Dr. Badger was a princely looking man and a most skillful dentist. He was courtly in manner and genial and humorous in disposition. He had the tastes of a cultured gentleman of his day.[17] In 1850 his property in De Kalb County was valued at $20,000, a large sum for that time.[18] The Doctor died in Alligator, Florida, on May 25, 1859, leaving a widow and several children, then living in Atlanta.[19]

The reading public of Atlanta was treated to some new fare during 1859. First to appear that year was the *Literary and Temperance Crusader,* which moved to Atlanta in December, 1858, from Penfield, Georgia, and made its local opus in January following. Colonel John H. Seals was editor and publisher, Mrs. Mary E. Bryan, literary editor, and William G. Whidby, local editor. All apparently took part in the temperance aspect of the paper. The coming of war in 1861 made the publication of such a weekly unprofitable and it was suspended.[20]

The Medical and Literary Weekly was also put forward in 1859, with Doctors V. H. Talliaferro and A. G. Thomas as editors.[21]

The most resounding splash in the local journalistic pond of 1859 was made by the appearance of the *Southern Confederacy* on February 15th, under the editorship of Dr. James P. Hambleton. The paper became the subject of much talk in the city and elsewhere for Hambleton was a fire-eater, and his editorials were highly intemperate in tone. Before leaving for Confederate Army service in May, 1861, editor Hambleton printed what he called a "black list" of Northern merchants (Republicans) and urged the Southern people not to trade with them. The "black list" was copied by the Northern papers and was roundly denounced by them. Upon Dr. Hambleton's departure, title to his paper was transferred to C. R. Hanleiter and George W. Adair, publishers of the *Gate City Guardian.* The new publishers were especially happy over the acquisition of an appropriate name for the *Guardian.* The papers were combined and publication continued as the *Southern Confederacy.*[22]

By 1859 there were five Masonic Lodges in Atlanta and the original hall of the fraternity at Alabama and Loyd streets had become sorely inadequate. During the year the Masonic Hall Company was incorporated with David Mayer as President, S. B. Hoyt as Secretary, and Luther J. Glenn and J. A. Hayden as other officers. About the same time Edward E. Rawson, who owned the property on the north side of Decatur Street between Pryor and Ivy, and just east of the Trout House, began the erection of a stone building on the lot. He proposed to the members of the Masonic Hall Company that if they would build an additional story, furnishing their own material, they were at liberty to use all the space above the second floor as a Masonic Hall.[23]

A ninety-year lease was accordingly drawn up and the Masonic Hall Company promptly issued stock in shares of $100 each for the purpose of erecting this hall for the use of all Masonic organizations which were at that time operating in Atlanta and Fulton County.[24]

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Georgia, William S. Rockwell, together with the mayor and council of Atlanta, were invited to ceremonies attendant upon the laying of the cornerstone of the new building on August 11, 1859. After the ceremonies Grand Master Rockwell addressed a large gathering in the Atheneum Building. The following inscription was carved upon this first Masonic cornerstone in Atlanta:

M.W. WM. S. ROCKWELL, G.M.
R.W. R. T. TURNER, S.G.W.
R.W. W. A. LOVE, J.G.W.
August 11th, 1859
E. W. Brown, Arch.[25]

The new hall was not completed until June, 1860, and on the 19th of that month it was dedicated in accordance with ancient custom and usage by a committee composed of Worshipful Luther L. Glenn, Brother David Mayer, Brother Thomas L. Cooper, Brother John W. Leonard, and Brother J. I. Whitaker. A public address was given at the services by M.W. Brother A. W. Wood, Past Grand Master of Alabama. The new Masonic Hall survived the war and was accidentally destroyed by fire on May 1, 1866.[26]

The rapid growth of Atlanta during the late 1850's called for more extensive fire-fighting facilities than those afforded by the two volunteer companies organized prior to 1859. The need was in fact underscored by the loss of three human lives in a fire on the east side of Whitehall Street 100 feet south of Alabama in the winter of 1858. It was the first such tragedy in the history of the city. The building involved was a large two-story frame structure with stores on the ground floor and with several families residing upstairs. Before the fire fighters arrived on the scene the building was a roaring furnace. The intense heat prevented the rescue of a woman and two children trapped on the second floor.[27]

Tallulah Fire Company No. 3 was formed on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1859, and adopted the motto "We Strive to Save."[28] Upon petition of its counsel, Glenn and Cooper (L. J. Glenn-T. L. Cooper), the company was incorporated June 10, 1859, by Judge O. A. Bull of Fulton Superior Court. The original officers of Tallulah No. 3 were John F. Ezzard, president; Luther J. Glenn, vice-president; Edward Murphy, first director; William G. Richards, second director; Charles H. Lewis, third director; Ed A. Werner, fourth director; W. H. Clarke, 1st axeman; William A. Haynes, 2nd axeman; William T. Mims, treasurer; William T. Mead, secretary, and M. H. Oliver, surgeon. The articles of incorporation called for a total of fifty members.[29]

The company was somewhat delayed in securing a home, but on December 7, 1860, the City bought a lot on the west side of Broad (then Bridge) Street between Marietta and Walton streets for $1,000 and presented it to Tallulah No. 3 as a site for its engine house. The house was soon built and occupied the ground whereon is now situated the southeast corner of the Grant Building.[30]

The uniform worn by members of Tallulah No. 3 consisted of orange colored jackets, black pants and red caps bound with blue.[31]

One of the spectators at the Whitehall Street fire in which three lives were lost was Frank M. Johnson, a recent arrival from New York City. He noted the unfortunate lack of ladders on the part of the existing fire companies. Soon thereafter he began to solicit subscriptions for this necessary equipment. The response was generous and resulted in the organization, during November, 1859, of Atlanta Hook and Ladder Company No. 1.[32]

Before the year closed the new fire company had been granted a charter by Judge O. A. Bull, petition for same having been filed in Fulton Superior Court by J. M. C. Hulsey, attorney for, and member of the company. Officers, as indicated by the petition, were William Rushton, foreman; Frank M. Johnson, assistant foreman; Moses Cole, secretary, and J. D. Lockhart, treasurer. A total membership of sixty was provided for.[33] Other moving spirits in the organization of Hook and Ladder No. 1 were John C. Peck, Robert F. Maddox, Fred F. Coulter and George Hull. The original home of the company was on the east side of Pryor Street between Alabama and Hunter, but in 1872 its headquarters were moved to the east side of Broad Street between the railroad bridge and Alabama, diagonally across the street from the home of Atlanta's original fire company.[34]

The uniform of Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 consisted of black pants, blue shirts, crossed by white straps marked "H. & L.," fire hats and visors similarly marked.[35]

During the summer of 1859 a fire in a store building on Alabama Street just east of the present site of the Connally Building, cost the life of a fire fighter, the first such unhappy event to occur in Atlanta. Levin S. Blake was not a member of any of the volunteer fire companies, but pitched in to help during the Alabama Street fire. He was killed by an explosion of powder while helping to remove goods from the burning store.

Blake was a member of the Atlanta Amateurs (concert and dramatic association) and in August William H. Barnes, W. A. "Gus" Haynes and E. A. Werner, also members, petitioned the city for a metallic case in which to send home to Baltimore, Maryland, the body of their associate. Soon thereafter Council, with more hindsight than foresight, passed an ordinance requiring a license to sell gunpowder, and a sign to that effect be posted on the house wherein explosives were kept for sale.[36]

The abortive movement to establish free public schools in Atlanta during 1858 bore fruit during 1859 of a different variety than originally intended—the establishment of a female institute.[37] This project was heartily favored by those who had made the attempt to establish free schools. Indeed, they thought that anything in the way of education was better than nothing, and that if the women were educated they would ere long become the most earnest and powerful advocates of a public school system.[38]

The stockholders in the female institute held a meeting in the City Hall on July 19, 1859. Col. A. W. Stone and Professor J. R. Mayson explained that the object of the meeting was to raise the stock subscription to $10,000. This amount was raised at the meeting, leaving $5,000 yet to be raised. It was thought that $15,000 would put the institute on a firm footing. An appeal was made to City Council for the money needed. The appeal set forth, among other things, that the institute was to educate ten Atlanta girls to be selected by the major and council. That the city administration of 1859 took a dim view of the undertaking is indicated by the fact that the appeal was denied.[39]

Shortly thereafter A. M. Wallace, J. W. Duncan, J. G. Johnson, V. H. Talliaferro, Margenius A. Bell, A. W. Stone and Dr. John G. Westmoreland were added to the stock committee, which by August 15th had raised the necessary $15,000.

An excellent lot was selected for the college. It was situated on an eminence and commanded a fine view of the surrounding country. The identical site had been selected twenty-six years earlier by the pioneer Hardy Ivy for his home, and was still known as the "Ivy lot." The college building was erected on the northeast corner of Courtland, then Collins and Ellis streets, by Eliphalet A. Allen, contractor. William Gabbett was the architect. It was completed in 1860 and was put to use as a female college with Professor J. R. Mayson, Methodist minister and later associated with the LaGrange Female College, as principal.[40]

On December 17, 1862, the following rates of tuition were announced for 1863: collegiate department, for six months, $36; preparatory department, $30; primary department, $24; one-half payable in advance.[41]

Came July, 1863, turning point of the War Between the States, and the female college building was transformed into a Confederate hospital. Professor Mayson and his girls moved to the Neal home at Washington and Mitchell streets, where the school continued until the spring of 1864.[42] It was not reopened in the fall of that year, for a new tenant for the Neal home showed up in September. He was William T. Sherman, General, U.S.A.

The site of Atlanta's ante-bellum and wartime female college, long after the building itself disappeared, was known, and designated on old maps and plats as "College Hill."[43]

The common school law, passed by the Georgia Legislature in 1858, inspired comments and suggestions from Fulton and De Kalb County grand juries during 1859. The Fulton grand jury for the first week of the April term devoted its presentments almost entirely to the subject of education:

". . . The General Assembly of the State of Georgia having at its last session passed an Act for the better regulation of the educational system of the State, known as the Common School Law, we feel deeply the importance of such movement and desire to see a better system inaugurated than any hitherto in operation among us. And as other Countys, through their Grand Jurors, have taken action on and offered various schemes for the promotion of this great cause, many of which we deem impracticable, and being thoroughly convinced of its paramount importance, we therefore recommend:

1st. That the Ordinary of the County cause a complete and full return of the number of poor children entitled to education out of the poor school fund, to be rendered as directed by the above on that subject.

2nd. That in the event the amount which he shall receive under the provisions of said Act shall be insufficient to educate all the children contemplated by that Act, then he shall apply the funds so arising to the payment of all the tuition of those whose parents are unable to school them.

3rd. That in as much as the season is too far advanced to accomplish all that is necessary to put the Common School Law into successful operation as contemplated by the Legislature, we recommend that the Ordinary cause all teachers to make out their accounts under oath as prescribed by the Act, and that the Ordinary pay to such teachers agreeably to the rates of tuition charged by them for other scholars.

4th. We are uncompromisingly opposed to the building of school houses or other buildings appropriated to that use, the expenses of which are to be deducted from any portion of any funds that may be created by any recommendation of ours, or to be derived from any appropriation from the State, and that all such funds so created, or so appropriated, shall be wholly given to and used only for the tuition of the children as heretofore specified.

5th. That fifty percent be assessed (by) upon the State Tax for the furtherance of the objects above enumerated."[44]

Benjamin O. Jones, Foreman.

Stephen T. Biggers
Jesse Reneau
William H. Fitts
John H. Lovejoy
James Lynch
Francis H. Coleman
Capel McLendon
Jesse C. Green
W. B. Deaton
George W. Collier
James M. Collier
Lemuel Dean
Francis M. Eddleman
Charles W. Dill
Joseph Caldwell
Alfred W. Wooding
Coleman P. Harwell
Richard O. Haynes
Aaron K. Avery
Alexander M. Wallace

The following grand jury, for the second week of the same term, commented further on schools and, among other subjects, roads.

". . . We have examined the list of Poor Children in the County who have had the benefit of the poor school fund during the last year, and find, in consequence of the great number so returned, the fund has only amounted to 4½ cts. per day for each child.

" . . . We further recommend that the Ordinary pay no teacher out of the poor school fund for the tuition of poor children, but such as present certificates from a competent Board of Examiners as prescribed by law to their competency, and that the Ordinary be authorized to pay such rate of tuition the present year as the funds in his hands will authorize, not exceeding eight cents per day.

"In view of the importance of our locality we would recommend that the Inferior Court see that our road laws are more effectually carried out, and would call the attention of the authorities to that part of a public road near Hooper's Mills[45] on Proctor Creek, the crossing being removed lower down the creek and a bridge built under water, rendering the crossing dangerous. . . ."[46]

Joseph Winship, Foreman.

The next jury serving for the third week of the April term recommended caution against hasty action in setting up a general educational system.

". . . Under present circumstances and for various reasons that might be adduced, we deem it best, for the present, to defer the inauguration of a general educational system, and trust that the accumulation of facts and information that may be received during the year may tend to advance the object contemplated by the Legislature. . . .

"Had time permitted us we should have felt it our duty to have examined into the condition of the County Poor House, but as it did not we respectfully call the attention of the Grand Jury of the adjourned term to that subject, not only because we deem it a matter for the consideration of the Grand Juries of the County, but to conform to the wish of the keeper, Mr. Latimer, that they should do so. . . ."[47]

William M. Butt, Foreman.

The grand jury presentments for the second week of the October, 1859, term indicate that Fulton County was solvent, but just barely so.

"So much of the time of our body has been occupied by the current business of the Court, that we have not been able to examine the Books of County officers as thoroughly as we desire, with the exception of the books of the County Treasurer, which we find neatly and correctly kept and showing a balance of $62 in the Treasury.

"Through a committee we have examined the jail and find it kept in good condition and (in our opinion) sufficient for the safe custody of prisoners, provided an efficient guard is kept around it for that purpose.

"We recommend that the Ordinary be authorized to apply the Poor School Fund to the payment of the tuition of such children as he may be satisfied are really unable to defray the same.

"We also recommend the Inferior Court have that portion of the City Hall used by the County thoroughly cleaned and whitewashed and that the same be furnished with gas fixtures."

George W. Adair, Foreman.[48]

The final grand jury for 1859—the October adjourned term—closed its presentments upon an encouraging note:

"We congratulate the County and citizens of Fulton County upon the decrease of crime in our midst. With the exception of a few special cases, which we have been called upon to try, we have had scarcely anything to do."

Julius A. Hayden, Foreman.[49]

Over in De Kalb the grand jury for the October, 1859, term covered several subjects:

"We, through a committee, have furnished the Court of Ordinary with a list of all the children in our County between the ages of 8 and 18, and have marked all those which in our opinion are entitled to a participation in the poor school fund, as our County has not been surveyed off into school districts.

"Through a committee we have examined the books and vouchers of the County Treasurer, and take pleasure in saying that we find his books correct, and that he has exhibited proper vouchers for all moneys disbursed by him. . . .

"We notice that one of our public wells is in a bad condition, and therefore recommend the proper authorities to have said well put in a good substantial repair forthwith.

"We notice that a portion of Power's Ferry Road from the fork on Shallowford Road until the Power's Ferry Road intersects the Atlanta road, is in bad repair, and recommend the proper authorities to have it worked out immediately. We recommend that a portion of the Nelson's Ferry Road from some 2 or 3 miles (from Decatur) be worked out as soon as practicable.

"We recommend to those having the care of the Court House rooms keep them in better order so far as ashes and dirt is concerned.

"We are happy to say at the close of this term of our Superior Court that there has been no presentment brought before our body, and that our jail is empty, which speaks well for the morals of our County.[50]

John McElroy, Foreman.

Green B. Clay
John M. Born
James J. Winn
E. G. Allen
W. W. Wells
Harris Crowley
J. E. George
Harris Goodwin
E. M. Kittredge
J. C. Austin
Solomon Goodwin
Nathan Center
J. B. Walker
W. R. Brandon
G. B. Hudson
John Carpenter
John T. Alford
Thomas L. Robertson
Richard Gittens
James Ball
Bennett H. Tuggle
Seaborn Cochran"

Atlanta's loss, by death during 1859, of pioneer citizen Willis Carlisle and well-known lawyer, Basil H. Overby, has been noted. Another good citizen, who answered the final summons on June 23rd of that year, was William Kay. He was born in England in 1822; married Margaret Burke, a native of Ireland, and settled in Atlanta during the late 1840's. Together with James McPherson, he was the pioneer book and stationery dealer of the town. He and his wife, who survived until 1897, rest, with many of their contemporaries, in Oakland Cemetery.[51]

The *Weekly Intelligencer* of June 30, 1859, in announcing the death of Mr. Kay, said:

"We regret to announce the death of our friend and enterprising fellow-citizen, William Kay, which occurred in this city on Thursday afternoon at 4½ o'clock. Mr. Kay has been a resident of Atlanta for a number of years and had during that period acquired a host of friends. Few men were more industrious and energetic in business than the deceased, and all who knew him well bear witness to his thorough honesty and uprightness. For years he struggled against misfortune and difficulty, retaining the respect of the community. But he has at length sunk under a disease which has long doubtless been destroying his system, and Atlanta loses one of her best and worthiest citizens. The sympathies of all will be given to his widow and children in their affliction."

One of these children was a posthumous son, William Edward, born November 15, 1859. He was admitted to the Georgia bar in 1878; began practice in Atlanta, and moved to Brunswick, Georgia, where he was in general practice from 1879 to 1905. In the latter year he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, where at the time of his death in 1939 he was senior member of the law firm of Kay, Ragland and Kurz. From 1906 Mr. Kay was general solicitor of the Georgia, Florida & Alabama Railroad.[52]

By 1859 Atlanta had become enough of a city to warrant the publication of a city directory. The modest little volume measuring 6 x 8½ inches was compiled and published by Mr. Williams of Cincinnati, and was distributed by Michael Lynch, successor to William Kay. It consisted of 160 pages, including many advertisements. Seventy-two additional pages, comprising a "List of Post Offices in the United States and Territories," made a book seveneighths of an inch thick. This first Atlanta directory was titled: Williams' Atlanta Directory, City Guide, and Business Mirror. The work was introduced to the public by the following

"PREFACE

"We present our first issue of the Atlanta Directory with the belief that it will be found as nearly accurate as any book of the kind can possibly be.

"The growing importance of the City demands that its population and business should be represented in this shape, and the compiler expresses the hope that this volume will be the first of a long series.

"It depends upon the public spirit of the business men and the patronage they extend to the enterprise to determine whether the publication shall be continued.

"The publisher begs to extend to the subscribers to the present volume, his sincere thanks for their liberality; also, to G. B. Haygood, Esq., for the sketch of Atlanta, furnished for this volume."[53]

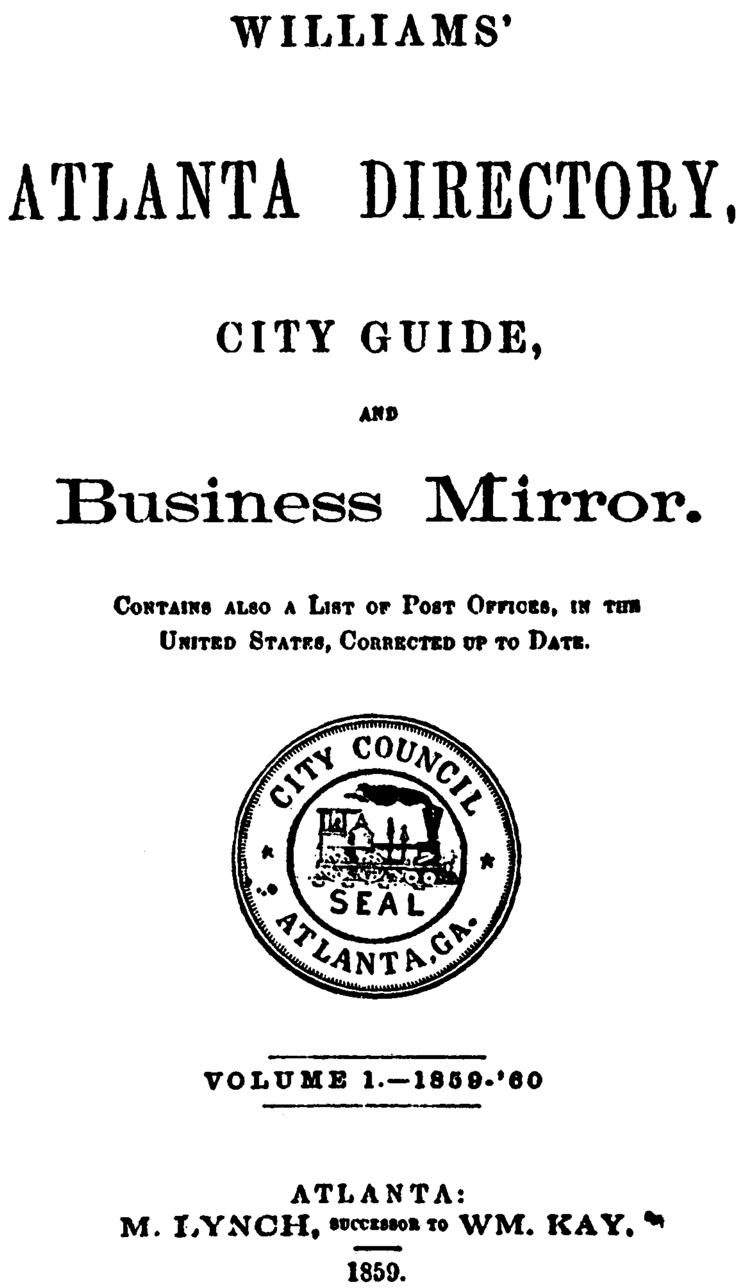
The following paragraphs are taken from Mr. Haygood's *Sketch of Atlanta,* just referred to:

". . . The incorporated shape of the city is a circle two miles in diameter, with a handle of half a mile in length and six hundred yards wide along the line of the Macon and Western Railroad. It covers a portion of sixteen original land lots, each of which was laid off upon a plan to suit the views of the respective owners, and hence our streets are not at all so regular in width and uniform in direction as is desirable, many of them being much too narrow for public convenience.

". . . The medical college is now in its fifth course of lectures, all delivered in the summer, with a larger class than any former one, numbering 156 students; has had its day of probation, trial and difficulties, but it is now a decided success, and its enemies and rivals have almost ceased to persecute it. It has an able and efficient faculty, and a very complete chemical apparatus, and is collecting a very respectable museum.

"The geographical position of Atlanta, being nearly in the centre of the southern section of the American Union, at the point of the great railroad crossings in a right line from New York to New Orleans, and nearly equidistant from each; four prominent lines of railroad all centering here, and pouring into the depots and warehouses of the city an amount of trade, and transporting through it a vast tide of travel; situated, too, just upon the dividing line between the cotton and grain sections of the State, altogether, give to Atlanta facilities for receiving and distributing the productions and the commerce of the country from one section to another, greater than can be claimed for any other inland city in the South. Atlanta is now connected by rail with Chattanooga, Nashville, Memphis, and thence with the Upper Mississippi; also, with London and Knoxville, Tennessee; Lynchburg, Virginia; and thence with the great lines north and east; on the southwest with Montgomery by rail, thence by water with Mobile, New Orleans, and all the Lower Mississippi; also with Columbus and all southwestern Georgia, and Savannah, and the Atlantic, through Macon. By the Georgia Railroad with Augusta, Charleston, Columbia, Greenville, most of the prominent places in North and South Carolina, Virginia, and the great Northern cities.

"Another railroad is now in projection, and considerable progress made towards its accomplishment, in the direction of Anderson Court House, South



WILLIAMS'

ATLANTA DIRECTORY,

CITY GUIDE,

AND

Business Mirror.

CONTAINS ALSO A LIST OF POST OFFICES, IN THE
UNITED STATES, CORRECTED UP TO DATE.

CITY COUNCIL
SEAL
ATLANTA, GA.

VOLUME 1.—1859-'60

ATLANTA:
M. LYNCH, SUCCESSOR TO WM. KAY.
1859.

(From an original Directory, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Title-page of Atlanta's first City Directory, published in 1859. The next issue did not appear until 1867. Note original City Seal.

Carolina,[54] through the beautiful and productive territory known as northeast Georgia; and another still has been chartered from this point to the great and inexhaustible coal fields of northeastern Alabama,[55] destined to supply fuel and motive power to the teeming millions that shall inhabit these lands for untold ages. Forty-eight freight and passenger trains arrive and depart daily from the city. . . .

"It is not believed that any other city in the country is blessed with greater or better facilities for procuring building materials, the supply of granite near at hand of a quality peculiarly adapted to building purposes is literally inexhaustible; bricks of good quality are made in and around the city on reasonable terms. Lumber of good quality is also obtained at reasonable prices; lime is produced in any desirable quantity near at hand.

"The population of the city is remarkable for its activity and enterprise. Most of the inhabitants came here for the purpose of bettering their fortunes by engaging actively in some kind of business, and this presents the anomaly of having very few aged persons residing in it; and our people show their democratic impulses by each allowing his neighbor to attend to his own business, and our ladies even are allowed to attend to their own domestic and household affairs without being ruled out of respectable society.

"The mechanical element prevails in our city, and the major part of them are enterprising, thrifty and prosperous men, who are rapidly rising in the public esteem.

"The health of the city is almost unprecedented, being entirely exempt from the usual summer and fall fevers, cholera, etc. No epidemic has ever prevailed here, and the bills of mortality show a state of health almost without a parallel.

"The city is chiefly supplied with the very best free stone water, from wells usually from thirty to forty feet deep, though a very great number of excellent springs are found within the city limits. Among these we may not omit to mention the chalybeate spring in the western part of the city,[56] which has within a few years attracted the public attention, and now forms one of the inducements for the sojourn in our city of those in search of health. . . ."

The city directory of 1859 defined the boundaries of Atlanta's five original wards.

First Ward—Whitehall south from W. & A. Railroad to Corporation Line; thence from Whitehall to W. & A. Railroad, thence on Railroad to Whitehall.[57]

Second Ward—Commence Whitehall, south from W. & A. Railroad to South Corporation, thence from Whitehall to McDonough.[58]

Third Ward—All territory east of McDonough [Capitol Ave.] and south of Georgia Railroad to Corporation Line.

Fourth Ward—Comprises all territory north of Georgia Railroad and east of Ivy to Corporation Line.[59]

Fifth Ward—Comprises all territory between Ivy and Western & Atlantic Railroad to Corporation Line.[60]

In addition to the churches previously mentioned in this history, the 1859 directory lists the following:

Christian Church—South side of Decatur between Collins and Loyd. Dr. A. G. Thomas, Pastor.

Evans Chapel (Methodist)—North side of Nelson, west of Mangum. Rev. B. Lester, Pastor.

Congregational Methodist—North side Jones [Woodward Ave.] between Martin and Connally's Alley. Rev. James Caldwell, Pastor.

Protestant Methodist—Northwest corner of Mitchell and Forsyth. Rev. Isaac G. Mitchell, Pastor.

African Methodist—Alley north of Gilmer between Collins and Calhoun [Piedmont Ave.]. Rev. Isaac N. Craven, Pastor.

At this time Atlanta could boast a total of thirteen churches, a gain of eight since 1850.

The city was likewise gaining ground as a financial center. Williams' Directory listed the following under the heading

BANKS

Bank of Fulton—Capital Stock, $300,000. South side Alabama between Whitehall and Pryor. E. W. Holland, President; A. Austell, Cashier; E. W. Holland, A. Austell and Jared I. Whitaker, Directors.

Atlanta Insurance and Banking Co.—Southwest corner of Whitehall and Alabama. J. R. Wallace, President; Jo. D. Lockhart, Secretary.

Georgia Railroad and Banking Company Agency (Principal Office, Augusta)—Northeast corner of Railroad and Whitehall. Perino Brown, Agent.

Bank of the State of Georgia Agency—Brady and Solomon, Agents. West side of Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell.

Augusta Insurance and Banking Company Agency—N. L. Angier, Agent. East side of Whitehall between Alabama and Hunter.

Alex. M. Wallace, Bank Agent—Office South side of Alabama between Whitehall and Pryor.

The above indicates that Atlanta's ante-bellum financial district centered around the intersection of Whitehall and Alabama streets. Another financial institution, active in Atlanta in the period preceding the war, did not gain a directory listing under "BANKS," but took a full page advertisement in the book.

GEORGIA STATE LOTTERY
$60,000
CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA
Draws Twice a Day at Savannah, Geo.
McKINNEY & CO., Managers
Prizes vary from $1.00 to $60,000
TICKETS FROM $1 to $10
SWORN COMMISSIONERS ARE APPOINTED
TO SUPERINTEND EACH DRAWING
TICKETS FOR SALE AT THE
Banking, Exchange and Lottery Office
COR. WHITEHALL AND ALABAMA STREETS
J. W. MILLER, Agent ATLANTA, GA.

All orders by Mail or Express promptly attended to. Drawing forwarded to all Ticket Holders immediately after the drawing takes place.

Prize, Cash, at this Office

The seeds of Atlanta's preeminence as an insurance center had been sown by 1859. Williams' Directory listed the following under

INSURANCE COMPANIES AND AGENCIES

Ætna Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
Hartford Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
City Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
Connecticut Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
Merchants' Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, Hartford.
Girard Fire and Marine.
Southern Mutual Insurance Company, Athens, Georgia.
Southern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Columbia, S. C.
Augusta Insurance and Banking Company, Augusta, Ga.
N. L. Angier, Agent.

Manhattan Life Insurance Company, New York.
J. E. Butler, Agent,
Cherokee Block.

Quaker City Insurance Company, Philadelphia.
State Fire Insurance Company, New Haven, Conn.
Girard Fire and Marine Insurance Company, Philadelphia.
Knickerbocker Life Insurance Company, New York.
Alexander M. Wallace, Agent.
Office south side Alabama opposite Passenger Depot.

Home Insurance Company, New York.
Artizan Fire Insurance Company, New York.
Samuel Smith, Agent.

For a city of just under 10,000 Atlanta was rather liberally supplied with public buildings as of 1859. They are listed in Williams' Directory under the heading

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, HALLS, ETC.

Cherokee Block—Northeast corner Peachtree and Cherokee [Edgewood Ave.].
Concert Hall Building—Northwest corner Railroad and Whitehall [Peachtree Arcade site].
Holland House Building—Northeast corner Alabama and Whitehall [Atlanta Nat'l Bank Bldg. site].
Muhlenbrink's Block—West side of Whitehall between Railroad and Alabama.
Lynch's Building—Northwest corner Alabama and Whitehall.
Markham's Block—West side of Whitehall between Alabama and Hunter.
Beach & Root's Building—West side of Whitehall between Alabama and Hunter.
Atheneum Building—North side of Decatur between Pryor and Peachtree.
Court House—Southeast corner of Hunter and Washington.
City Hall—Southeast corner of Hunter and Washington.
Johnson's Block—West side of Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell.
Georgia Railroad and Banking Company's Building—Northeast corner of Railroad and Whitehall.
Norcross' Building—Southwest corner of Whitehall and Marietta [First Nat'l Bank site].

Silvey & Glazner's Block—North side of Decatur between Pryor and Peachtree.
Tanner's Block—Northside of Decatur between Pryor and Peachtree.
Collier's Building—Northeast corner of Decatur and Peachtree.
Masonic Hall—Northside of Decatur between Ivy and Pryor.

The better residential sections of Atlanta, at the close of its ante-bellum decade, were pretty well scattered over the city, except that the southwest and northwest areas were somewhat less desirable. In the southwest a pretty fair section was developing around the residence of John Collier on Nelson, west of the M. & W. Railroad. Many substantial citizens lived on lower Whitehall Street, between Mitchell and McDaniel streets. Pryor, Loyd [Central Ave.], Washington and McDonough [Capitol Ave.] streets boasted good homes. The section around the present City Auditorium was considered desirable, while Peachtree, north of Luckie out as far as Oslin [Forrest Ave.] Street attracted many good citizens. Some of the city's finest homes were situated on Marietta Street between Wadley [Forsyth] Street and Spring.[61]

Between 1855 and 1860 the population of Atlanta nearly doubled, and many fine citizens arrived, who not only aided in the building of the town, but founded some of our best-known present-day families. Some of those who cast their lot with Atlanta during the last half of the 1850's were:

Adair, Augustus D.
Alexander, George S.
Allen, Eliphalet A.
Anderson, William C.
Austell, Alfred
Archer, Calvin C.
Awtry, John L.
Bagby, William K.
Baker, Bolling
Ballard, Wilson J.
Banks, Isaac S.
Barth, Charles F.
Beach, Solomon S., Dr.
Beerman, Charles
Bellingroth, Albert
Bellingroth, Leonard
Berry, Cary W.
Berry, Maxwell R.
Blackwell, J. M.
Boggus, Thomas B.
Bohnefeld, Charles
Bookout, John M.
Branan, Duke H.
Brantley, Joseph B.
Braumuller, Herman
Brown, Perino
Broxton, Hezekiah W.
Buice, David
Buice, Elisha
Buice, Madison
Burckhardt, Gustavus A.
Butler, James E.
Cain, Jefferson
Camp, George W.
Cassin, Cornelius P.
Chapman, Edward B.
Chisolm, William A.
Clarke, James
Clarke, John M.
Clarke, John T., Rev.
Clarke, Marshall J.
Clarke, Thomas M.
Clower, William W.
Clayton, William W.
Cleveland, William L., Dr.
Cole, Moses
Colley, Daniel
Condon, Caleb
Corley, William L.
Coulter, Fred
Cox, William B.
Coyne, James
Craig, James
Crawford, Franklin A.
Crosby, Isaac
Crozier, James
Daly, Martin
Daly, Patrick
Davis, Christopher C.
De Shong, W. H.

Dimick, Loderick M.
Dodd, Green T.
Dodd, Philip
Dorsey, John M.
Dougherty, David H.
Downs, Samuel T.
Downs, William A.
Dowsing, John W., Dr.
Duncan, John W.
Durand, Samuel A.
Dye, Thomas
Edwards, George
Ehlers, Augustus L.
Eisenhut, John
Elsworth, Charles
Everett, William S.
Faith, John F.
Ferguson, Daniel P.
Ficken, John
Fitch, Fayette S.
Fitzgibbon, Richard
Fitzgibbon, Thomas
Fleck, Daniel
Fleming, Thomas P.
Flynn, John H.
Ford, John J., Dr.
Frizzell, William H.
Galceran, Martin P.
Gammage, Thomas M.
Gardner, H. B.
Gartrell, Lucius J.
Gaskill, Varney A.
Gaulding, Archibald A.
Gavan, Charles
Gavan, John
George, John H.
Gilbert, Theodore
Glazner, George F.
Glenn, Luther J.
Gramling, William G.
Gullatt, Henry
Gullatt, James E.
Hambleton, James P.
Hancock, James A.
Haney, Thomas
Harden, William P.
Harmsen, Charles
Harris, Theophilus
Hasson, James, Rev.
Hayden, Patrick
Heery, Daniel O. C., Dr.
Heinz, Charles
Herndon, William G.
High, William L.
Hilburn, Lemuel J.
Hill, W. Rhode
Holmes, Adam T., Rev.
Holroyd, William
Houston, Columbus M.
Howard, Thomas C.
Hoyt, John G.
Hulbert, Edward
Hulsey, William H.
Jack, Francis M.
Jack, George W.
Jack, William F.
Jentzen, John
Jenkins, Joab J.
Johnson, George
Jones, Adam W.
Jones, Hiram T.
Judson, David N.
Keely, John
Keltner, Washington
Kennady, William A.
King, Barrington S.
Klasset, Andrew
Krouse, Harry
Kuhrt, Henry G.
Landis, Solomon
Lansdell, William A.
Leak, Harrison F.
Lester, Robert B., Rev.
Lewis, Charles H.
Lewis, J. Thomas
Little, Thompson G.
Lockhart, J. D.
Logan, Joseph P., Dr.
Longley, Thomas
Love, Seymour B.
Lowe, Thomas F.
Lowenthal, Julius
Lynch, Owen
Lynes, Timothy D.
McArthor, Thomas W.
McDade, Windsor C.
McDonald, James, Rev.
McGee, John
McGrath, Peter
McHan, Thomas G.
McLendon, Capel
McLendon, Nicholas A.

McLin, James G.
McMillan, Wm. H.
McMillen, William
McNaught, William
Mabry, Milus J.
Maddox, Robert F.
Mahoney, Michael
Manning, Jethro W.
Maier, John
Massey, Robert J.
Miller, Daniel S.
Miller, James I.
Mitchell, Isaac G.
Mitchell, William D.
Morris, James M., Dr.
Morris, Thomas A.
Murphy, Anthony
Murphy, Timothy C.
Murray, Felix
Myers, Michael
Neal, John
Neal, James H.
Niles, Samuel D.
Noble, James
Norman, John B.
Oatman, Stephen B.
O'Connor, Moses
Oliver, Mathew H., Dr.
Orme, Aquilla J.
Orme, J. Chambers
Ormond, James
Orr, Samuel A.
Paris, John A.
Payne, James B., Rev.
Payne, Warren D.
Peck, John C.
Peel, John
Peters, William G.
Peterson, Josiah S.
Pittman, Daniel
Pitts, Columbus A.
Pomeroy, R. S., Dr.
Ponder, Ephriam G.
Pound, John G.
Powell, Thomas S., Dr.
Purtell, James H.
Ransford, Henry
Rawson, Edward E.
Reed, Thomas
Reinhardt, Christian
Rice, Zachariah A.
Richards, Jabez J.
Richards, Samuel P.
Richardson, Francis M.
Ripley, Thomas R.
Roach, Elisha J.
Roach, William H.
Roberts, Mark L.
Robinson, Jeptha C.
Robinson, Levi
Robinson, William P.
Rodes, Charles C.
Rogan, Michael
Rogers, John L., Rev.
Rollins, Alonzo P.
Root, Sidney
Rose, Singleton C.
Rucker, Jesse G.
Salmons, Lewis S.
Sasseen, Edward R.
Sawtell, Isaac Y.
Scofield, Lewis
Scrutchin, Thomas
Seals, John H.
Shearer, William C.
Sheehan, Cornelius
Simms, J. D.
Simms, Thomas G.
Sisson, Vardy P.
Smith, Samuel
Solomon, William
Sowers, Felix
Spencer, Thomas
Spinks, Lewis
Stewart, James A.
Stone, Amherst W.
Sullivan, Christopher
Talliaferro, Valentine H., Dr.
Talley, Algernon S.
Tanner, William J.
Taylor, James A.
Thomas, A. G., Dr.
Thomas, George S.
Thornton, Simeon W.
Thrash, William H.
Thrower, Benjamin
Thrower, Thomas L.
Thurman, F. D., Dr.
Treadwell, Hardy
Turner, Archibald M.
Turner, Winguit H.
Underwood, William H.

Wall, Richard M.
Wallace, Alexander M.
Watkins, Elihu P.
Watkins, William
Weaver, John M.
Welch, George
Wells, John D.
Wells, Levi C.
Whidby, William G.
Wiggins, Jesse
Wilson, Alexander N.
Wilson, Thomas C. H., Dr.
Wise, John S.
Withers, John
Withers, Walter S.
Witt, Horace H.
Wittgenstein, M.
Woddail, Joseph F.
Wood, Coleman F.
Yancey, Benjamin C.
Yarbrough, Joel S.
Zachry, Bertrand[62]

NOTES—CHAPTER 37

[1] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 187; Avery, *History of Georgia,* 94-95, 98.

[2] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 209.

[3] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, pp. 322, 337; *ibid.,* 1927, pp. 473-474; "Garrett's Necrology."

[4] *Atlanta City Directory,* 1859, p. 21.

[5] *Ibid.,* 21-22.

[6] Then located on Green's Ferry Road near the present main entrance to West View Cemetery.

[7] Whitehall to Loyd (Central Av.) Street.

[8] Jones' Livery Stables, west side of Loyd between Alabama and Hunter streets.

[9] Peachtree then began at Decatur Street, and not at the railroad tracks as at present.

[10] John H. Lovejoy's store was located on the east side of Peachtree opposite Walton Street.

[11] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1859," *loc. cit.,* 221-226; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 58-61.

[12] Reed, *Atlanta,* 81.

[13] *Ibid.*

[14] "Garrett's Necrology."

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] "An Old De Kalb Home," *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 22, 1907.

[17] *Ibid.*

[18] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1850, Panthersville District.

[19] "Garrett's Necrology."

[20] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," 25; Reed, *Atlanta,* 407.

[21] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," 25.

[22] *Ibid.,* 26; Reed, *Atlanta,* 407.

[23] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 50-51.

[24] *Ibid.,* 51.

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] *Ibid.,* 51-53.

[27] Phillips, *History, Fire Department,* 49.

[28] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 245.

[29] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.

[30] *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate D; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 75.

[31] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 246.

[32] *Ibid.,* 245; Olive L. Hoggins, "Fire Well at Five Points," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Apr. 30, 1933.

[33] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.

[34] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 246; *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate A.

[35] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 246.

[36] "Recollections of William H. Barnes," *Atlanta Constitution,* June 11, 1888; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 60-61.

[37] The Holland Free School had ceased operation in 1858.

[38] Reed, *Atlanta,* 318.

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] *Ibid.,* 319; "Garrett's Necrology."

[41] Reed, *Atlanta,* 319.

[42] *Ibid.*

[43] *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate C.

[44] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.

[45] Enoch Hooper, proprietor. Located on Proctor Creek near the crossing of that stream by the present road connecting Chattahoochee, Ga., with the Bankhead Highway at Mayson's Church.

[46] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1859, Book C.

[47] *Ibid.*

[48] *Ibid.*

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1859, Book D.

[51] "Garrett's Necrology."

[52] *Who Was Who in America, 1897-1942,* p. 657.

[53] From an original copy of the directory in the collection of the present writer.

[54] Georgia Air Line, now Southern Railway main line east.

[55] Georgia Western, now Southern Railway, Atlanta-Birmingham.

[56] Located near the present north end of the Terminal Station train sheds.

[57] Roughly, the southwestern part of the city, west of Whitehall Street.

[58] Territory between Whitehall Street and the present Capitol Ave.

[59] The northeast section of the city.

[60] The northwest section of the city.

[61] Based upon a study of *Williams' Directory,* 1859-1860.

[62] Based upon a comparison between the Atlanta Tax Digest of 1854 and *Williams' Directory,* 1859-1860. The list does not purport to be complete.

Section VII

THE EIGHTEEN-SIXTIES

The Peace is Breached. The Result and Its Aftermath
State House Moves to Town

CHAPTER 38

1860

WITH the dawn of the sixties Atlanta entered its decade of greatest travail, a decade from which it emerged as changed as was Chicago after its fire of 1871 and San Francisco following the earthquake of 1906. Ante-bellum Atlanta all but disappeared in the crucible of war, but the seeds of its future survived the ordeal and flowered mightly in the years to follow.

The strained relations between the North and the South began to be felt early in Atlanta. It has already been noted that the Kansas question caused considerable local excitement back in 1856. John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, in October, 1859, and his subsequent execution, added to the tension. Indeed a straw in the wind of early January, 1860, the Newcomb incident, shows the trend of local feeling. It was reported in the *Intelligencer* as follows:

"Newcomb has left.—A fellow named Newcomb, who caused the disturbance at Hayden's Hall on Tuesday night, January 3, 1860, has left. It was whispered around town on Wednesday that this individual was in the habit of drinking toasts to old Osawatomie [John] Brown, and stating that he should not have been hung. He was in the employ of Mr. John Ryan, dry goods merchant, and came here from the North. Mr. Ryan was waited on yesterday, by some of our citizens, and informed of the doings of this individual, when he very justly and very promptly gave him notice that anyone guilty of conduct savoring of Abolition could not clerk for him, and thereupon gave him his walking papers. Newcomb could not be found last night, although delegations of citizens would have been glad to pay him their respects could they have discovered him. He is doubtless off for parts unknown, and the sooner he treads Northern soil the better it will be for him." His full name was D. S. Newcomb, and he was from New York City.[1]

At the same time another, and much broader issue came to the fore. The matter of non-intercourse with the Northern States with respect to trade began to agitate the people of the South, and of Atlanta. It was thought by many that the South could and should be entirely independent of the North. This sentiment arose, of course, from the repeated and continuous hostility of the people of the Northern States toward slavery, but it is also true that the necessity for commercial independence in case of war between the two sections intensified the sentiment. It was also thought by some that if southern trade was withdrawn from the Northern wholesale merchants, the agitation of the slavery question would, in obedience to their self-interests, be abated, if not silenced.[2]

A communication from someone signing himself "Longstreet," published in the *Intelligencer* for January 14, 1860, closed with the following rather warm paragraph:

> ". . . Strike, merchants of Georgia, at the black Republican and Abolition trade of the North! Repudiate it, give it no countenance, no quarter; reject it, spurn it, and spit upon it; In doing so you will not only display your own patriotism and loyaly to the South, but you will carry out the wishes, we may say the stern demands, of those from whom you expect to derive your profits from home. The times demand that no black Republican or Abolitionist shall profit by Southern trade, either directly or indirectly, from cupidity, nor from avarice."[3]

This article together with others of a more reserved character inspired the calling of a meeting of local merchants for January 31st, to take the matter of withdrawing patronage from Northern merchants into consideration. The call was issued by the following Atlanta firms and individuals: W. Herring & Co., McMillan & Fleming, High, Butler & Co., J. M. Holbrook, Cox, Hill & Co., Hunnicutt & Taylor, Tomlinson & Barnes, Massey & Lansdell, Ezzard & Grier, Rucker & Woodail, Er Lawshe, Maddox & Watkins, J. D. Simms, William M. Williams, H. H. Witt & Co., J. D. Lockhart, F. A. Williams, Clarke & Grubb, Smith & Ezzard, Clarke & Lewis, W. H. DeShong, and David Mayer.[4]

The meeting was held on schedule with Alexander M. Wallace as chairman and Dr. James P. Hambleton, later of the *Southern Confederacy* newspaper, as secretary. A Committee consisting of Dr. B. M. Smith, William Herring, Sr., William Gilbert, Robert F. Maddox and Wm. M. Williams was appointed to draw up and submit resolutions. After due consideration the Committee offered resolutions which favored cutting off all trade from abolition merchants of the North, and recommending the formation of a Mercantile Association to ascertain who were unsound on the slavery question.[5]

There being but few present at this meeting, no definite action was taken in regard to the resolutions. However at a subsequent meeting, on February 24th, of which Dr. D. Young was chairman and A. M. Eddleman, secretary, an organization was perfected. The following resolutions were offered by a Committee consisting of William H. Barnes, Jonathan Norcross, Wm. M. Williams, Levi C. Wells and John B. Peck:

> WHEREAS, All the undersigned, merchants and business men of Atlanta, believing it to be for our mutual interest and for the public good, do hereby form ourselves into a "mercantile association,' for the purpose of strength and counsel to build up the business of Atlanta and to successfully compete with any city of the South, and for the purpose of remedying the present unjust discrimination against our city, in freights and the commerce of the city.
>
> Resolved, That by concerted action we will be better protected, not only as Southern men, but as merchants, and that we will feel ourselves in honor bound to impart information to this association as may be useful to our section and the protection of our trade.
>
> Resolved, That we look upon the discrimination of Charleston and Savannah in favor of Nashville and other cities in freight, as unjust and oppressive, and objectionable to our interests as a commercial city, and that we will treat all those cities fairly and honorably to get a reduction from those ports to Atlanta.

Resolved, That we will, individually and collectively, use our best endeavors to make Atlanta a port of entry, believing it would be of benefit to ourselves, our State and the general government.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to form a constitution and by-laws for this association and for other purposes, and to report at a meeting to be held on next Friday night.

The recommended committee was appointed, and consisted of John B. Peck, Wm. M. Williams, Sion B. Robson, Dr. John L. Hamilton and Judge S. B. Hoyt. A committee was also appointed to fully investigate the matter of discriminations in freight against Atlanta. It was composed of Sidney Root, William McNaught, William Herring, John R. Wallace, Alvin K. Seago, William H. Barnes, Eli M. Seago, P. L. J. May and Judge Hoyt.[6]

Atlanta's first "Mercantile Association," ancestor of our present Chamber of Commerce, was inundated by the war, but the subject of discriminatory freight rates to and from Atlanta and the Southeast is still a live issue.

The presidential election of 1860, which engendered so much partisan feeling, both North and South, was a four-candidate affair. The Republicans nominated Abraham Lincoln, with Hannibal Hamlin as a running mate. The Constitutional Union Party, constituted from the old Whig and American parties selected John Bell, of Tennessee, and Edward Everett, of Massachusetts, for president and vice president respectively. The Democrats split over the issue of secession. Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, and Herschel V. Johnson, of Georgia, were the regular nominees of the party, while John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, and Joseph Lane of Oregon, became the standard bearers of the slave-holding interests.

The city of Atlanta was treated to a visit from candidate Stephen Douglas on October 30, 1860, at which time he was accorded a respectful hearing. The following questions were propounded to him by the executive committee of the Breckinridge and Lane party of Fulton County.

1. Has not each State the sovereign right to decide for itself what shall be sufficient cause for a withdrawal from the Union?

2. If, upon the election of Abraham Lincoln, any of the Southern States, in sovereign convention assembled, should decide to withdrawn from the Union, would the Federal government have a right to coerce her back into the Union, and would you assist the Federal government in so coercing her?

3. If you answer that the right of secession is only the right of revolution inherent in all people, then would not the citizens of said state so withdrawing, by exercising the right of revolution, be acting as rebels and traitors to the Federal government, and would you aid in their punishment as such?

The day following the Douglas speech, the *Intelligencer* said that the Democratic candidate denounced the propounding of the above questions as an act of impertinence, because the same questions had been put to Mr. Breckinridge. He contended, however, that this Union must be perpetual, that it must last forever, that there could be no cause for secession, and that there was no danger from foreign aggression.

The Breckinridge executive committee then issued an address to the voters of Georgia in which it explained the reasons for asking the questions of Mr. Douglas.

1. Because they desired to have his opinion on the question of Federal coercion.

2. Because he had repeatedly announced that he would answer all questions put to him in a respectful manner from a respectable source.

To the first two questions he had given evasive answers, and to the third, no reply at all. He however, had answered enough. He had denied the sovereign right of secession. The secession of a sovereign state was, in his opinion, a violation of the Constitution, and all engaged in such secession would be rebels, traitors, outlaws; and he would sustain Mr. Lincoln in the enforcement of the laws against such rebels and traitors.

The Breckinridge committee closed its remarks dramatically. "States Rights men of Georgia, will you sustain the abominable Federal government? Are freemen of the South slaves of the Federal government? Are you to be punished as rebels and traitors, when acting under the sanction and mandate of our own State?"

JARED I. WHITAKER, Chairman
W. S. BASSFORD, Secretary.[7]

Among those who heard the "Little Giant" in Atlanta, was Thomas Maguire, proprietor of "The Promised Land" plantation, near Rock Chapel, and just over the DeKalb line at Rockbridge, in Gwinnett County. He was then a mature man of sixty and the owner of a modest number of slaves. Planter Maguire confided to his *Farm Journal,* under date of October 30, 1860:

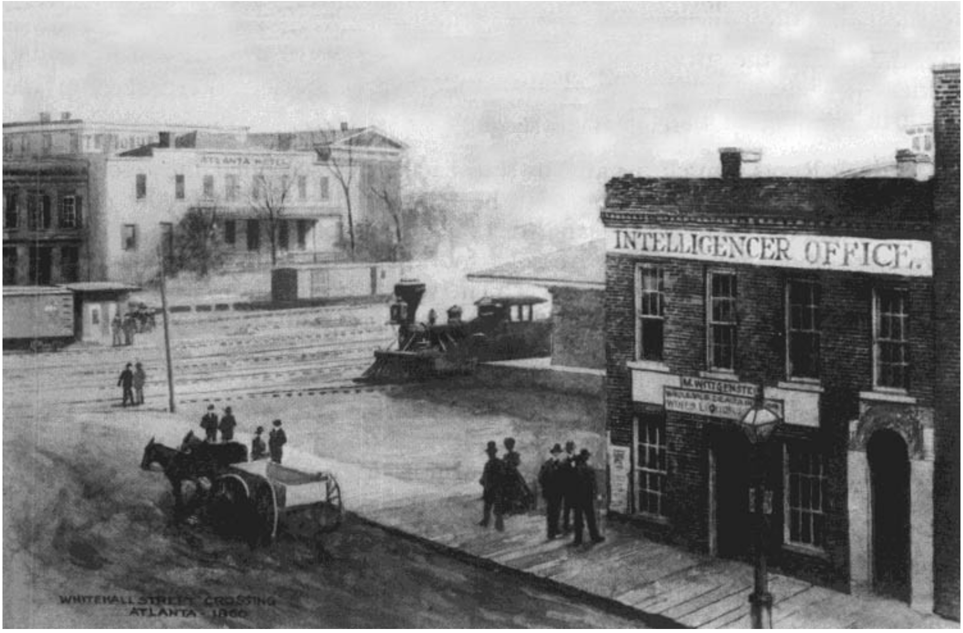
> "Up at 5:30, got breakfast and off for Atlanta. Got to Lithonia and put up our horses in Masonic lot and got Mr. George Graham to attend to them. Got to Atlanta midst a crowd, there was a great number of persons at the city. At twelve o'clock Douglas and Stephens [Alex. H.] arrived at the stand, Douglas with a reporter. Mr. Stephens introduced him with a brief history of Douglas' labors for the South and fully endorsing his doctrine of territory sovereignty. He spoke about 15 minutes, then Douglas commenced and spoke about 2½ hours. He is a strong man and made many good points, but some of his speech I did not like, particularly his secession doctrine is revolution and many other things I did not like. There was good order kept, and all broke up. We then went to Mecaslin's[8] and took a snack of crackers and cheese, then out to see the family, and then to the wood and water station to get on the freight train which was crowded with passengers. We left at 5¼ o'clock and got safe to Lithonia at 7½ and home at 9½. All well, got supper and to bed."[9]

Senator Douglas, his speaking ability notwithstanding, failed to enlist the majority of Atlantans under his banner.

The day following the Douglas speech, October 31st, first steps were taken toward the formation of the Minute Men Association of Fulton County. A meeting was held in the armory of the Atlanta Grays. It was called to order by Captain A. M. Wallace of the Grays, who nominated Dr. W. F. Westmoreland, as chairman, and W. S. Bassford, as secretary. As stated by Captain Wallace, the object of the meeting was to organize in the city of Atlanta, and in Fulton County, men of all parties, not as partisans, but as true southern men, a body to be known as the Minute Men of Fulton County, to bind themselves to stand by the State rights of the South, their honor, their homes, and their firesides against a black Republican government.[10]

After several subsequent meetings the organization was perfected, and numbered among its membership, some of the best citizens of the city and county.

The presidential election occurred on November 6th. While most of the hotheads in Georgia voted for Breckinridge, it must be noted that they were in the minority at this time. Most everyone was awed by the impending calamity. In the general consideration it mattered little whether Bell, Breckinridge, or Douglas carried Georgia. If Lincoln were not elected by the Electoral College, the choice would fall to the National House of Representatives, where all of Lincoln's enemies would unite in support of one of his opponents. The light vote which was cast in Georgia showed the popular indifference to the result within the State.[11]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

The railroad crossing, Whitehall Street, 1860. Site of Atlanta Hotel now occupied by Kimball House. The Intelligencer was the leading daily newspaper of the period. Locomotive is standing beside the Rock Depot of the Macon and Western (Central of Ga.) Railroad

The vote in the Atlanta precinct was for Douglas, 335; for Breckinridge, 835; and for Bell, 1070. In the county districts the vote stood for Douglas, 327; for Breckinridge, 1018; and for Bell, 1195.[12] DeKalb County went for Breckinridge, giving the Southern Democratic candidate between fifty and sixty percent of her vote.[13]

Thomas Maguire, on November 10th, noted in his *Journal*:

> "Heard news occasioned by the late election that was not pleasant, but we will have to do the best under the circumstances. God defend the right."

The Minute Men held a meeting on the evening of November 8th, inspired by the election. It was called to order by Colonel A. A. Gaulding who nominated Dr. J. F. Alexander for Chairman. W. S. Bassford, the secretary offered the following resolution:

> WHEREAS, News having reached us that Abraham Lincoln has been elected president of the United States by a dominent Free Soil majority, whose sole idea is the destruction of our constitutional rights and eternal hostility to our domestic institutions, therefore,
>
> RESOLVED, That as citizens of Georgia and Fulton County we believe the time has come for us to assert our rights, and we now stand ready to second any action that the sovereign State of Georgia may take in asserting her independence by separate State action, or in unison with her sister States of the South in forming a Southern Confederacy.

Sidney Root, himself a native of Massachusetts, seconded the resolution in a neat and eloquent speech, in which he reviewed the actions of the Abolition power for the thirty previous years. P. L. J. May spoke, saying that he believed there were good and sufficient reasons for a dissolution of the Union. F. S. Fitch, of Campbellton, made a speech, in which he overflowed with secession sentiment. Dr. J. P. Logan, Dr. A. G. Thomas, John H. Seals, George H. Daniel, Colonel W. T. Wilson, Captain A. M. Wallace and Colonel T. C. Howard all addressed the meeting.[14]

Yet, when the time came, during the following year, to take definite action on the question of Georgia's secession, local sentiment was not as overwhelmingly for the step as the activities of the Minute Men might suggest.

High tide for the Minute Men came on the evening of December 22, 1860. Under the auspices of the committee of arrangements, consisting of Dr. D. H. Connally, S. W. Jones and Dr. E. J. Roach, a grand meeting was held that night. The demonstration commenced by the firing of fifteen guns at sunrise, and at 2 P. M., a salute of one hundred guns was fired under the auspices of the Atlanta Grays. At 11 o'clock A. M., a meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. J. L. Rogers, of the Central Presbyterian Church, after which a speech was made by the Hon. Howell Cobb, and at 7 o'clock P. M., the Hon. Henry R. Jackson addressed the people. At the close of the evening meeting there was a grand torchlight procession, which marched all over the city. This meeting and procession was held in honor of the secession of South Carolina from the Union, which had occurred on December 20th. During the progress of the procession Lincoln was burned in effigy in front of the Planter's Hotel.[15]

As it always has, the normal life of the city and its environs went on pretty much as usual during the political excitement of 1860.

The city election, held in January, 1860, resulted in the election of William Ezzard, who had formerly served in 1856 and 1857, as mayor. Successful candidates for council were:

First Ward, Henry H. Glenn and John B. Norman.
Second Ward, Philip E. McDaniel and James Clarke.
Third Ward, James R. D. Ozburn and Merrill T. Castleberry.
Fourth Ward, Samuel B. Sherwood and John R. Wallace.
Fifth Ward, Isaac Winship and James F. Lewis.

James Clarke resigned July 6, 1860, and was succeeded by James R. Crew on July 27th. James F. Lewis resigned September 6th and was replaced by N. L. Angier on September 28th.[16]

Ministerial officers elected by council for 1860 were, Clerk, C. F. Wood; treasurer, J. R. Rhodes; marshal, G. W. Anderson; deputy marshal, E. T. Hunnicutt; first lieutenant of police, J. M. Lester; second lieutenant of police, J. M. Blackwell; street overseer, John Haslett; clerk of market, J. F. Trout; sexton, G. A. Pilgrim.[17]

Some of the problems resolved or sidetracked by the city officials of 1860 are indicated by the Minutes of Council.[18]

Jan. 13.—Mayor's salary raised from $500 to $1,000 per annum and those of the marshal and his deputy from $600 to $700.

Jan. 20.—Thomas L. Thomas, J.P., administered oath to Mayor-elect Ezzard. Mayor and members of Council-elect and all living ex-Mayors met as usual after this meeting in the Marshal's room to partake of the usual annual collation.

February 3.—Opening, widening, straightening, or otherwise changing streets and alleys was made a power of the Mayor and Council when they deemed it wise, by a charter amendment. Two freeholders on both sides to assess damages. These four freeholders to select a fifth freeholder if they could not agree. The Mayor and Council were also empowered to fix a system of grading and draining streets.

Retail liquor tax fixed at $300 by charter amendment. Tax on lotteries fixed at $500.

Feb. 10.—Inspector for beef, pork, flour, and grain packed and shipped from Atlanta asked for. Adopted Feb. 24th.

An ordinance read calling for election of two fire wardens to attend all fires and determine as to blowing up of adjacent houses, etc. On Feb. 24th A. M. Wallace and N. L. Angier were elected fire wardens.

March 10.—Fire Companies to have lots in cemetery. Gate City Guards granted money by City for camp equipment.[19]

March 16.—Atlanta Grays given $300.

March 23.—Pond in city hall square to be filled up. Toilet to be moved or rebuilt.

Apr. 6.—Report of Treasurer showed $13,445.46 city account for first quarter.

Apr. 13.—Thomas Shivers elected night watch.

Apr. 20.—W. F. Jack's petition that his Negro boy be allowed to buy and sell chickens, eggs, etc., was laid on the table.

May 4.—Council was asked to continue Loyd (Central Ave.) Street to Peters (Trinity Ave.).

Sundry citizens petitioned Council to erect a bridge over the Georgia Railroad so as to connect Bell Street.[20] This was referred to the Street Committee, and "refused for the present."

May 23.—$300,000 was subscribed to Georgia Western Railroad.

June .—Marshal J. Clarke was employed to codify City Statutes.

June 24.—Council attended the dedication of the New Masonic Hall on Decatur Street.

July 6.—The Georgia Air Line Railroad asked to suspend operations.

July 13.—Council was asked to remove the bodies from the old cemetery immediately beyond the home of Thomas L. Cooper.[21]

Aug. 17.—Petition of residents of Pryor Street for sidewalks in neighborhood of Rawson granted.
Ordinance prohibiting throwing of water, dirt and trash from windows and doors passed.

Oct. 5.—Petition to have Fraser Street opened from the jail to Hunter Street, to be 8 or 10 feet wide.

Nov. 2.—Barkeepers asked to close their doors on election day.

Dec. 7.—At the request of David Mayer, President of the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation, the City donated six lots, each about 15 x 30 feet, to the Jews of Atlanta for burials in the City [Oakland] Cemetery.[22]

The Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April, 1860 term emphasized the growth and commercial importance of the Atlanta area.

". . . We will, however, call the particular attention of the proper authorities to the bad condition of nearly all the public roads in the county, especially those near the corporate limits of the City of Atlanta, and would urge the pressing necessity of having all the work done on them that the law has provided for until they are in a condition commensurate with the wealth, growth and commercial importance of the county, which is now one of the most populous in the State."

Stephen J. Shackelford, Foreman.[23]

The jury for the third week of the same term commented happily on the financial condition of Fulton County.

". . . We have examined the books of our County Treasurer, and find them neat, plain and correct, exhibiting in the hands of the Treasurer $2828.60 dollars. It may be observed that our financial affairs are in a healthy condition, and with a proper observance and a strict enforcement of our most wholesome laws, we may expect to become a still more prosperous and happy people. . . ."

Thomas Echols, Foreman.[24]

The recently established County Alms House and the lack of a safe depository for county records were the chief topics covered in the grand jury presentments for the first week of the October, 1860 term:

". . . We give here a statement of the expenditures and products [of the County Alms House]—

Expenses from Jan. 1, to Oct. 1, 1860, including superintendent's salary	$927.19
Received from sale of hogs	12.00
	$915.19
Amount of cloth made	360 yards
Amount of corn made	150 bushels
Amount of hay and fodder	3,000 bushels

Potatoes and cabbage sufficient for the year, with the present number of inmates. There is at this time fewer inmates than at any other time during the past nine months, the number varying from 34 down to 14, the present number.

"The County roads in every direction need attention, especially the Green and Howell Ferry Road and the Campbellton Road, as well as the bridge near the Rolling Mill.

"After examining the books and papers [of Fulton County], we learn that the County is without a safe, or any other protection against fire for these papers. We recommend that there be a fireproof vault built in some convenient portion of the Court House, sufficiently large to contain all the books and papers of the County, and that the several officers be required to keep them there at all times except when absolutely necessary to have them out for business purposes. . . ."[25]

Thomas L. Thomas, Foreman

Alfred W. Wooding
Thomas G. Healey
Fendol D. Thurman
John Lynch
Isaac P. Calhoun
Philip Dodd
Solomon Goodwin
James V. White
Marat Megee
Levi H. Harwell
Henry Irby
Russell Baker
William H. Harvill
James M. Isom
Thomas A. Thomas
James F. Trimble
Moses Wood
Isaac Suttles
William C. Humphries
Augustus A. Wilson
Er Lawshe
Elisha J. Roach, Sec'y

Disorder in the suburbs called for the following remarks by the grand jury for the second week of the October term:

"In view of the disorder arising from the collection of a large population near the corporate limits of the City of Atlanta, who are without a city government or police regulations, we would suggest the propriety of said suburban citizens making overtures to the Legislature to extend the corporation line to two miles from the passenger depot, as the best remedy for the evil above mentioned. . . ."

William C. Lawshe, Foreman.

Foreman Lawshe did not secure full unanimity, since three members of his jury dissented from the city limit extension proposal.[26] No change was made in the corporation limits for the time being.

Some new faces appeared officially in the DeKalb County Court House during January and February, 1860. Jonathan B. Wilson was elected ordinary; T. R. Hoyle, clerk, Superior Court; K. A. Russell, clerk, Inferior Court; William Wright, sheriff; L. B. Underwood, tax receiver, and Simeon Smith, tax collector.[27]

Charles Latimer, father of the then young lady destined many years later to become the first of her sex to become a United States Senator,[28] was chided by the De Kalb grand jury for the October, 1860 term:

". . . We recommend that the Inferior Court require Charles Latimer to build a new bridge across South River at Flat Shoals in this county, or remove the obstructions out of the ford at that place, or enforce the laws against him, the said Latimer, in case of failure to remove said obstructions. . . ."[29]

Robert McWilliams, Foreman

Leonard Sims
Harris Goodwin
W. A. Shields
James Moore
Benjamin Burdett
J. L. Kilgore
David Chupp
William R. Pendley
J. I. Whitlow
Killis Brown
J. M. Evans
Ebenezer Tilley
Laban Sturgess
William McElroy
Michael A. Steele
John K. McCarter
J. L. Morris
Seaborn Crowley
Augustus L. Pitts
J. W. F. Tilley
Jabez Lord

By 1860 it was felt that while the four volunteer fire companies of Atlanta were functioning well as independent units, the welfare of all concerned would be better served by establishing a department. Therefore a merger took place on March 8. William Barnes, a tin and copperware manufacturer, was chosen chief; Samuel B. Sherwood, a contractor and builder, became first assistant chief, and Robert F. Maddox, wholesale grocer and commission merchant, second assistant chief.[30]

Each company continued to operate as before, though subject to the three officers of the combined department. Each company also maintained its engine house and equipment, and staged numerous bazaars, balls and other benefits with which to meet expenses. They were a gay, happy lot, serving the community faithfully and well, with never a thought of monetary compensation.

A profusion of reading material was put before the reading public of Atlanta in the pre-war year of 1860—some for the general reader and some for the specialist.

The *Educational Repository and Family Monthly,* an organ of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was published by Wood, Hanleiter and Company from 1860 to May, 1861. Greene B. Haygood served as treasurer of the publication. Rev. J. Knowles, of Macon was editor in 1860 and was succeeded by Prof. W. H. C. Price in 1861.

The *Hygienic and Literary Magazine* appeared monthly during 1860 and was published by Mrs. Dr. Riley (La Ferve).

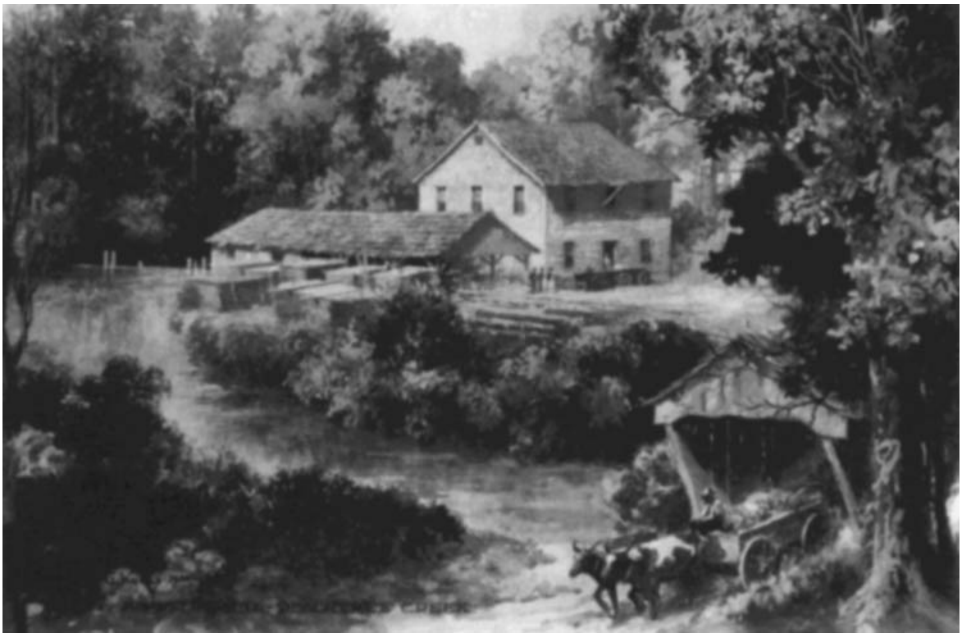
The *Landmark Banner and Cherokee Baptist,* a weekly religious paper was brought to Atlanta from Rome in June, 1860, and in July, 1861, was edited by Rev. Jesse M. Wood and Rev. Henry C. Hornady. In August of that year Dr. Hornady bought the paper from Wood, Hanleiter and Company, former owners, and became sole proprietor. The Rev. Mr. Wood remained in an editorial capacity. Later, the paper passed into the hands of James N. Ellis and Company. It was known variously as the *Baptist Banner,* the *Cherokee Baptist,* and the *Banner* and *Baptist.*

The *Daily Locomotive* was published from January to November, 1860, by John H. Seals, proprietor and A. B. Seals, editor. A political paper, it attained a circulation of 550.

The *Georgia Weekly* and the *Lita National,* the former a literary weekly and the latter a Masonic magazine, both appeared briefly during 1860.

The *Southern Dental Examiner* was published monthly from May, 1860 to July, 1861, and bi-monthly from September, 1861 to March, 1862. Dr. J. P. H. Brown served as principal editor.[31]

One of Atlanta's most pretentious and unique ante-bellum homes, the Calico House, was erected in 1860 by Marcus Aurelius Bell, son of the old Decatur Street merchant, James Bell, at the southeast corner of Wheat and Collins streets, now Auburn Avenue and Courtland Street. The lot then extended east to Calhoun Street (Piedmont Avenue) and contained about four acres. The front lawn was shaded by large oaks and within the enclosures were a fruit orchard, garden and large clover field.[32]



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Howell's Mill, Peachtree Creek, 1860. This combination grist- and sawmill was built and owned by Judge Clark Howell (1811-1882) Great-Grandfather of Major Clark Howell, present publisher of the Atlanta Constitution. It stood in low ground just downstream from the present concrete bridge over Peachtree Creek on Howell Mill Road

The contractor for this unique residence was Thomas G. W. Crusselle, assisted, as sub-contractor for the interior work, by his brother-in-law, Frank P. Rice. Rice had learned the bookbinder's trade, when a youth, from William Kay, who also taught him, under an oath of secrecy, the process of making the indelible paints used in "marbleizing" the inside cover of books. When it came time to paint the house, after the rock work was covered with a thin coating of plaster, young Rice, then a youth of 22, secured three pastel shades of paint, ligh blue, yellow and red. The vari-colored paints were then splashed and striped on the surface of the plaster in such a way as to resemble marbleizing. About this time a popular pattern of calico appeared on the market, similarly colored. Someone remarked that the house "looked like this calico," and the name stuck throughout its long life.[33]

The walls of the Calico House, which was square except for an "ell" extending east, were built of blue stone from Patrick Lynch's rock quarry at the west end of what is now Rock Street, N.W. It was surmounted by a cupola.

Exclusive of the "ell," the house contained twelve large rooms twenty-two feet square. The interior was finished in heavy oak. Cost was kept within a specified limit of $25,000.[34]

Calico House remained as the home of the Bell family until 1876, when it was sold by Mr. Bell as a result of the panic of 1873, and to enable him to apply the proceeds to obligations incurred in various building operations. For many years the old landmark was owned and occupied by Dr. James T. Warnock, eventually becoming No. 129 Courtland Street.[35]

In 1904 the property was purchased by Asa G. Candler for $17,500, and the Calico House became the first home of Wesley Memorial, now Emory University Hospital. The hospital was moved to its new home on the Emory campus in December, 1922.[36] The old ante- and post-bellum three-story showplace, its glory long departed, stood vacant for three years and finally fell a victim to wreckers, in 1925.[37] The war-time history of Calico House will be related in a subsequent chapter.

The *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* on the front page of its issue of August 29, 1860, informed the traveling public of the city what it might expect in the way of railroad passenger service. Under the heading "RAILROAD GUIDE" is set forth the following:

GEORGIA RAILROAD & BANK'G CO.

AUGUSTA TO ATLANTA . . . . 171 MILES . . . . FARE $5.50

GEORGE YONGE, SUPERINTENDENT

Morning Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta daily, at	9:45 A.M.
Arrive at Augusta, at	6:45 P.M.
Leave Augusta daily, at	12:30 A.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	9:45 A.M.

Night Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta daily, at	8:40 P.M.
Arrive at Augusta, at	5:53 A.M.
Leave Augusta, at	2:30 P.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	11:45 P.M.

This road runs in connection with the Trains of the South Carolina and the Savannah and Augusta Railroads, at Augusta.

MACON AND WESTERN RAILROAD

Change of Schedule

MACON TO ATLANTA . . . . . . 102 MILES . . . . . . FARE $4.50

ALFRED L. TYLER, SUPERINTENDENT

Macon, Georgia, April 4, 1860.

On and after Tuesday, 4th inst., Trains will be run as follows:

Leave Macon at 12:00 night and 1:45 P.M.
Arrive Atlanta at 7:15 A.M. and 7:15 P.M.
Leave Atlanta at 12:00 night and 2:15 P.M.
Arrive Macon at 7:15 A.M. and 7:45 P.M.
The night Trains will not run on Sundays.

The 12 o'clock night Train from Atlanta connects with the Central Railroad for Savannah, at 10:00 A.M., and Southwestern, for Albany and Columbus, at 9:45 A.M.

The 2:15 P.M. Train connects with the Central Railroad at 10:00 P.M. and Southewestern Railroad at 11:50 P.M.

Through Tickets from Atlanta to New York by this line, $21.00.

ATLANTA & WEST POINT RAILROAD

ATLANTA TO WEST POINT . . . . . . 87 MILES . . . . . . FARE $3.50

GEORGE G. HULL, SUPERINTENDENT

Day Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta daily, at	10:15 A.M.
Arrive West Point, at	3:40 P.M.
Leave West Point daily, at	2:55 P.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	7:50 P.M.

Night Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta daily, at	0:30 A.M.
Arrive West Point, at	5:46 A.M.
Leave West Point daily, at	3:15 A.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	7:59 A.M.

WEST'N & ATLANTIC (STATE) R. R.

ATLANTA TO CHATTANOOGA	138 MILES	FARE $5.00

JOHN W. LEWIS, SUPERINTENDENT

Morning Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta, at	10:20 A.M.
Arrive at Chattanooga, at	7:34 P.M.
Leave Chattanooga, at	3:25 A.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	11:32 A.M.

Evening Passenger Train

Leave Atlanta nightly, at	8:15 P.M.
Arrive at Chattanooga, at	5:30 A.M.
Leave Chattanooga, at	3:00 P.M.
Arrive at Atlanta, at	11:32 P.M.

This Road connects each way with the Rome Branch Railroad at Kingston, the East Tennessee & Georgia Railroad at Dalton, and the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad at Chattanooga.

Travel in 1860, even by the speediest way yet devised by man, was by present standards, exceedingly slow. The Georgia Railroad took nine hours between Atlanta and Augusta, for an average of 19 miles per hour. The Macon and Western occupied seven hours and fifteen minutes between Atlanta and Macon—14 miles per hour. The run to West Point took 5½ hours at an average speed of 15 miles per hour, while the W. & A., with a nine hour run to Chattanooga, also averaged 15 miles per hour.

The same issue of the *Intelligencer,* through its advertising columns, described other services and some of the goods available to Atlantans on the eve of the War Between the States.

R. M. CLARKE T. F. GRUBB

CLARKE & GRUBB

WHOLESALE GROCERS
COMMISSION MERCHANTS

AND

NEGRO BROKERS

Whitehall St.	Atlanta, Ga.

Keep constantly on hand all classes of Negroes, and are paying the highest market price for all that may be offered.

FINE ART GALLERY

——O——

DILL & RASBERRY

Have opened a new picture gallery

IN PARKER'S NEW BUILDING

(On Whitehall Street)

Opposite Beach & Root's

They have the largest and best arranged Sky and Side-Lights, together with the most neat and accommodating suit of Rooms in the city. We have the largest and best selection of Pictures, to which, we invite the attention of the public to satisfy themselves that, in our Gallery, all Pictures taken by us are of artistic merit, and no humbugging. We have the largest Solar Camera, which enables us to make Pictures of the smallest miniature size up to the full length life size.

Persons having old Ambrotypes or Daguerreotypes of absent or deceased friends, can have them copied and enlarged to life size, and colored in Oil—thereby securing for all time the most truthful likeness. We keep constantly on hand and for sale a full supply of Picture-making materials, at the lowest rates.

THE CHAMPION GALLERY

DESHONG

The great High Priest of Sun presides. He commands the great Solar Camera. When he points her at the Human Face Divine, he catches the shadow in the twinkling of a "Chigger's" eye. Those wishing the best pictures should call at the "Champion Gallery," Markham's New Block, Whitehall Street.

CHARLES BEERMAN'S SHAVING SALOON

Next Door to the Post Office

CHARLES BEERMAN has just opened his splendidly arranged Shaving Saloon, next door to the Post Office, where he will serve his customers, and the public generally, from 6 in the morning until 9 o'clock in the evening.

As an appendage to the Shaving Department, he has a large and well-selected assortment of

PERFUMERY,
COMBS,
BRUSHES, &C., &C.

of every variety; also the best and finest brands of imported cigars.

CIGAR-HOLDERS
MERSCHAUM PIPES, &C., &C.

TROUT HOUSE EXCHANGE

Thankful for a patronage so liberally extended, the undersigned would inform his customers that he has now opened his RESTAURANT, and can furnish them with Bonescure, Norfolk and Savannah

OYSTERS

Also, all kinds of

WILD GAME ! !

IN ITS SEASON!

His Bar is Stocked with the Choicest LIQUORS and Cigars, and with polite and attentive Bar-Keepers, and a strict attention to business, he hopes to merit the continuance of their patronage.

W. W. SPALDING, Proprietor

FOR SALE

A Comfortable residence with about three acres of Land fronting on Peach Tree Street. The House contains six good rooms and has very commodious out-buildings, consisting of a large Kitchen, Rock Dairy, Smoke-house, wash-house, large negro house, two horse stable, corn and fodder house, carriage house and two cow stables. On the lot are some sixty select fruit trees, several young grape vines, and the garden is well stocked, and very productive. The water is remarkably good.

With the place, will be sold, (if desired) the furniture and Piano, a good steady family horse, and side-spring Buggy at valuation.

These premises will be disposed of at a price for which the improvements alone can hardly be duplicated. Apply to

G. J. FOREACRE

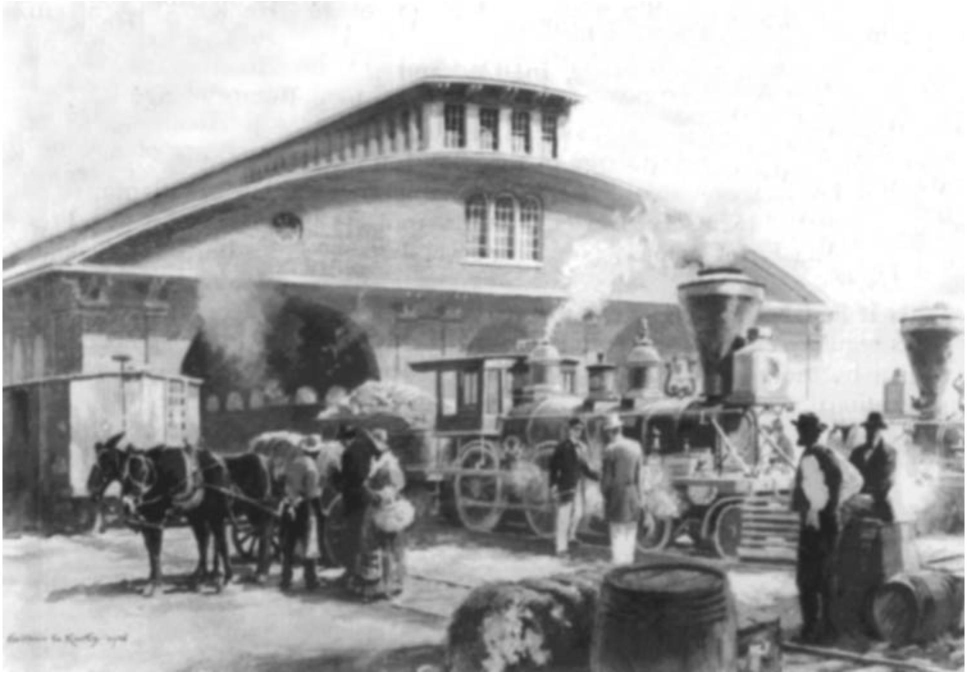
Real Estate Agent, Masonic Hall

Colonel Green J. Foreacre did not long fill the role of real estate agent, for he was, by training and experience, a railroad man, and a good one. He was born in Rainsboro, Ohio, in 1828 and cast his lot with Atlanta in the early 1850's. Here he formed a connection with the stage line running between Atlanta and Montgomery. Not long afterward a newer mode of transportation attracted his attention, and he became a section boss on the Macon and Western Railroad, but was soon promoted to conductor. When the war broke out in '61 he was filling the position of Atlanta agent for the M. & W., but espoused the Southern cause and in that year left Atlanta as Captain of Company B, Seventh Georgia Regiment, Confederate Volunteers, subsequently attaining the rank of Colonel.

Colonel Foreacre received a severe wound at Bull Run, or First Manassas, from which he never fully recovered. He was sent home, and assigned by the

Confederate Government to the supervision of the recently established Sugar Creek Paper Mills, southeast of Atlanta. He built a home nearby on East McDonough Road, now Boulder Crest Drive, residing there until the end of the war.

Upon regaining his strength the Colonel returned to his first love, railroads, and accepted the superintendency of the Montgomery and West Point, now Western of Alabama. After making a fine record he moved to Alexandria, Virginia, to accept a position with the Virginia Midland. By 1870, however, he was back in Atlanta, as superintendent of the Atlanta Division of the Central Railroad, that road and the M. & W. having meanwhile merged. The old Georgia Air Line, projected before the war, was completed from Atlanta to Charlotte in 1873 as the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line, and about 1876 Colonel Foreacre became its general manager, with headquarters in Atlanta. Five years later in 1881 he became President of the Northeastern Railroad of Georgia, and during the following year doubled in brass, as superintendent of the recently completed Georgia Pacific, originally Georgia Western. Finally, in 1884, he moved to Newark, Ohio, to become manager of the Western Division of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. He died there December 16, 1886, but was returned to Atlanta for burial in Oakland Cemetery. His widow, nee Delia Nichols survived until 1917. Colonel Foreacre was also



(From an original water color by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

Atlanta railroad passenger station, 1860. Built 1854, from plans drawn by F. A. Vincent. Destroyed by Union Army, Nov., 1864. Located between Pryor and Loyd (Central Ave.) Streets

survived by two sons and two daughters. The sons, Waver W., and William N., both became officials of the Southern Railway, successor of the old Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line, and died in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1921 and 1920 respectively. The daughters were Delia, who became Mrs. Blewett Lee, and Julia. the wife of A. P. Brantley, of Blackshear, Georgia. Both are now deceased. Mrs. James J. Ragan, neé Constance Brantley, and Mrs. Lawrence Willet, formerly Julia Brantley, both of Atlanta, are granddaughters of pioneer citizen Foreacre.[38]

On June 21, 1860, William W. Baldwin, one of Atlanta's best citizens died in the midst of his usefulness, being not quite 36 years of age. He was born in Bloomfield, New Jersey, in1824, and after learning the machinist's trade in Newark, moved to Atlanta in 1849. Here he served as master mechanic of the Western and Atlantic Railroad until 1857, when he moved to Montgomery, Alabama, to take charge of the shops and motive power of the Montgomery and West Point road. His health failing, he returned to Atlanta, where he died. Mr. Baldwin served in city council in 1854 and 1855 and was President of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1 for several years. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[39]

As it had been doing every ten years since 1790, the Federal Government took its regular census of the population in 1860. The status of De Kalb County is shown by the good citizen of Cross Keys District who performed the actual enumeration:

State of Georgia,
De Kalb County.

"I do certify that the foregoing Schedule No. 1, containing all of the Free Inhabitants of said County as follows:

Males	2850
Females	3004
Total	5854

James S. Elliott, Ass't Marshal.[40]

August 31 day, 1860."

The white population of De Kalb, in 1860, composed 60 to 75 percent of the total, while the neighboring counties of Fulton, Milton, Campbell and Gwinnett contained over 75 percent white. Clayton, Henry and Newton had more Negroes, the whites constituting only 50 to 60 percent of the total.[41]

Assistant Marshal C. H. Chandler, who made the census enumeration for Fulton County, from June 4th to August 15, 1860, inclusive, had more of a chore than did census-taker Elliott in De Kalb. He came up with a total free population for the County of 11,572 broken down as follows:

City of Atlanta, Ward No. 1	1987
City of Atlanta, Ward No. 2	1036
City of Atlanta, Ward No. 3	913
City of Atlanta, Ward No. 4	1572
City of Atlanta, Ward No. 5	2233
City of Atlanta, total	7741

Buckhead District	713
Cook's District	943
Black Hall District	1010
Oak Grove District	453
Stone's District	712
Total for County Districts	3831
Grand total for Fulton County	11,572.[42]

Assistant Marshal Chandler's entries in the "Occupation" column for the City of Atlanta form an interesting exhibit of what the citizens of 1860 were doing, or in some cases, not doing. The entires follow, arranged alphabetically by occupation or status, and show the number of persons engaged in each occupation or of a given status. All are white unless otherwise noted.[43]

Agent, 2
Agent, marble works, 1
Agent, Transportation, Ga. R.R., 1
Apprentice machinist, 2
Apprentice painter, 1
Apprentice printer, 1
Architect, 3
Artist, 1
Assistant agent, 1
At rest, 1
At rest for one year, 1
Attorney-at-law, 41
Auctioneer, 3
Bacon dealer, 5
Baggagemaster, 17
Baker, 5
Bailiff, 1
Banker, 2
Bank agent, 4
Bank clerk, 1
Bank teller, 2
Barber, 2
Barkeeper, 23
Billiard saloon, 2
Blacksmith, 26
Blaster, 9
Boarding house, 8
Boilermaker, 8
Bookbinder, 3
Bookkeeper, 35
Book peddler, 2
Bookseller, 5
Boss, railroad track, 2
Boss, rolling mill, 3
Brickmaker, 10
Brickmason, 48
Brickmoulder, 14
Broker, 1
Builder, 9
Butcher, 8
Cabinetmaker, 9
Candy maker, 1
Car builder, 1
Car greaser, 3
Car inspector, 2
Carpenter, 235
Carriage dealer, 1
Carriage painter, 1
Carriage trimmer, 1
Cart driver, 1
Catcher, rolling mill, 1
Catholic Priest, 1
Chambermaid, 1
Cigar maker, 1
City marshal, 1
City sexton, 1
City surveyor, 1
Civil engineer, 2
Clergyman, 16
Clerk, 177
Clerk, City Council, 1
Clerk, Inferior Court, 1
Clothier, 3
Coach driver, 1
Coachmaker, 1
Cobbler, 2
Coffin agent, 1
College student, 2
Commission merchant, 8
Confectioner, 7
Constable, 1
Consul from Belgium,[44] 1

Contractor, 1
Cook, 2
Cooper, 8
Coppersmith, 3
Cotton dealer, 4
Cotton factor, 1
Cotton gin maker, 1
Daguerrean artist, 4
Dentist, 9
Depot watchman, 1
Deputy marshal, 1
Deputy sheriff, 1
Distiller, 1
Drafter, 1
Dressmaker, 4
Druggist, 11
Drummer, 3
Editor, 10
Engine finisher, 1
Exchange broker, 1
Express agent, 2
Express messenger, 12
Family grocery, 30
Farm laborer, 4
Farm tenant, 4
Farmer, 25
Finisher, 1
Fire and life insurance agent, 2
Foundryman, 3
Freight transportation, 1
Fur dealer, 1
Furniture agent, 2
Furniture finisher, 1
Gambler, 9
Gardener, 4
Gas fitter, 2
Gas pipe fixer, 1
Gentleman,[45] 1
Gone to California, 1
Grass widow, 9
Gunsmith, 1
Harnessmaker, 6
Hat store, 1
Hatter, 1
Heater, 7
Homeopathic physician, 1
Hooker, rolling mill, 2
Horse trainer, 1
Hostler, 1
Hotelkeeper, 6
House girl, 1
Housekeeper, 1
House mover, 1
Indian agent,[46] 1
Infirm,[47] 1
In Prison, 5
Jailer, 2
Janitor, Medical College, 1
Jeweler, 11
Justice of the Peace, 2
Laborer, 284
Lager beer saloon, 1
Land holder,[48] 1
Land trader, 4
Lather, 2
Liquor dealer, 1
Livery and sale stable, 5
Locomotive engineer, 59
Locomotive fireman, 66
Locomotive tender, 1
Machinist, 79
Mail agent, 8
Mail carrier, 1
Mail guard, 7
Manufacturer, 1
Marble cutter, 4
Marble dealer, 2
Master carpenter, 1
Master machinist, 2
Medical doctor, 41
Merchant, 90
Messenger, 1
Miller, 5
Milliner, 13
Millwright, 4
Money dealer, 2
Money shaver, 1
Moulder, 13
Music agent, 1
Music teacher, 3
Negro trader, 9
Newspaper agent, 1
Note shaver, 3
Nurse, 1
Nurseryman, 1
Officekeeper, 1
Oil shop, 1
Oil man, shop, 1
Old loafer, 1
Old maid, 2
Ordinary, 1
Orphan, 14

Overseer, 1
Painter, 61
Patternmaker, 4
Pauper, 1
Peddler, 3
Penitentiary for life, for murder,[49] 1
Photographer, 4
Piano forte agent, 1
Planter, 3
Plasterer, 18
Policeman, 9
Portrait painter, 1
Postmaster, 1
President, Railroad,[50] 1
Pressman, tailor shop, 1
Printer, 32
Produce broker, 1
Professor, surgery, 1
Proprietor, rolling mill, 1
Prostitute, 49
Puddler, 9
Putting up lightning rods, 3
Quarryman, 2
Rail straightener, 1
Railroad agent, 11
Railroad conductor, 37
Railroad contractor, 1
Railroad freight checker, 1
Railroad ticket seller, 1
Recorder's office, R. R., 1
Roller, 9
Saddler, 1
Saloonkeeper,[51] 1
Sash and door maker, 1
Sawmilling, 2
Seamstress, 10
Secretary State,[52] 1
Shear man, 1
Shoe and boot maker, 29
Shoe merchant, 4
Sign painter, 2
Slater, 1
Soda fount, 1
Spring maker, 1
Station keeper, 1
Stationary engineer, 1
Stencil cutter, 1
Steward, 5
Stonecutter, 8
Stonemason, 33
Straightener, 1
Street overseer, 1
Street peddler, 1
Student, dentist, 1
Student, law, 3
Student, medicine, 11
Superintendent gas works, 1
Superintendent, R. R., 1
Tailor, 19
Tailoress, 2
Tanner, 6
Tax collector, 2
Teacher, 20
Teamster, 2
Telegraph operator, 2
Tinner, 18
Tobacconist, 2
Tracer, 1
Track raiser, 7
Trader, 14
Train hand, 37
Trans-shipping agent, 1
Traveling agent, 1
Treasurer, City, 1
Treasurer, R. R., 2
U. S. Marshal, 1
Upholsterer, 3
Vegetable grower, 1
Vineyard, 2
Wagoner, 2
Washerman, 1 (colored)
Washerwoman, 4 (colored)
Watchmaker, 1
Watchman, 9
Well digger, 6
Wheelwright, 13
Widow, 136
Wood carver, 1
Wood hauler, 1
Wood passer, 1
Young lady, 1

NOTES—CHAPTER 38

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 86.

[2] *Ibid.,* 87.

[3] Quoted in Reed, *Atlanta,* 88.

[4] *Ibid.,* 88.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Ibid.,* 89.

[7] *Ibid.,* 94-95.

[8] Paid a call on the John H. Mecaslin family, then residing at the southeast corner of Butler and Jenkins (now Armstrong) Streets.

[9] John M. Harrison, ed., "The Promised Land, a Glimpse of Ante-Bellum Georgia." From the Farm Journal of Thomas Maguire. Typescript, Atlanta Historical Society. Hereafter cited as "Maguire Diary."

[10] Reed, *Atlanta,* 95-96.

[11] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* 206.

[12] Reed, *Atlanta,* 98.

[13] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* Plate IX, 205.

[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 99.

[15] *Ibid.,* 103. The Planters' Hotel, George Johnson, proprietor, was located at the southeast corner of Alabama and Pryor streets.

[16] *Annual Reports, Atlanta,* 1899, p. 580.

[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 82.

[18] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1860." *A.H.B.,* XV, 289-292; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 73-76.

[19] On July 10, 1860, the Gate City Guard went into camp at White Sulphur Springs, Meriwether County, and remained 10 days under strict military discipline. They afterwards went to La Grange and camped two days, and were highly entertained by the La Grange Light Guards. From La Grange they marched to the Springs, a distance of 16 miles, a disagreeable chore in the hot mid-summer sun.

[20] An underpass now goes under the railroad at this point, connecting Bell Street on the north with Hill Street on the south.

[21] The Cooper home, in 1860, was on the west side of Peachtree between Harris and Baker streets.

[22] These lots are located just to the left, or west of, the Memorial Drive (Fair St.) gate.

[23] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1860, Book C.

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[28] Mrs. W. H. Felton, née Rebecca Latimer.

[29] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1860, Book D.

[30] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 247; "Garrett's Necrology."

[31] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers."

[32] Piromis H. Bell, "The Calico House," *A.H.B.,* III (May, 1930), 28. Piromis is a son of Marcus A. Bell, the builder.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] *Ibid.;* city directories, various dates.

[36] Charles Howard Candler, *Asa Griggs Candler* (Emory University, Ga., 1950), 359, 368.

[37] No. 129 Courtland Street last listed in the *City Directory* of 1925.

[38] "Garrett's Necrology." Obituary of G. J. Foreacre, *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 17, 1886; city directories, 1870-1885.

[39] "Garrett's Necrology," *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 327.

[40] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1860. Photostatic copy in collection of Franklin M. Garrett.

[41] Phillips, *Georgia and State Rights,* Plate X.

[42] U. S. Census, Fulton County, 1860. Photostatic copy in collection of Franklin M. Garrett.

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] Laurent De Give.

[45] Jonas S. Smith.

[46] Robert J. Cowart.

[47] Oswald Houston.

[48] Edwin Payne.

[49] Gabriel Jones.

[50] Jonathan Norcross.

[51] The census taker probably classified the majority of saloon keepers, of whom there were many, as merchants.

[52] Elihu P. Watkins.

CHAPTER 39

1861

ATLANTA, as has been seen, experienced a remarkable career of growth and business prosperity thus far in its history. But when the first sounds of war's alarms were heard throughout the land, the march of uninterrupted progress diverged from its accustomed course and sought new and hitherto untried channels. Normal building operations were, to a great extent, discontinued. Population, however, steadily increased and business, in unaccustomed channels, acquired an astonishing vigor and grew to immense proportions.

It was not surprising that the business and social life of the city should have changed so markedly; for war creates desires and necessities that are entire strangers to a state of peace. Many able men, who in times of peace, expend their energies in the accumulation of material property are spurred when war calls upon them, either from motives of patriotism or the desire for honorable distinction in arms, to withdraw from normal activities and seek fame and fortune on the tented field.

Thus it was that in 1861 and in the several years to follow, large numbers of local citizens forsook the allurements of mercantile or professional life, the mechanic's bench and the laborer's daily toil, to give their best efforts, and in numerous instances, their lives, for the Southern Confederacy.

Atlanta was soon to become one of the chief military centers and supply depots of the Confederacy, and ere long a major objective of Federal armies.

In early 1861, when all was doubt as to whether the incoming administration of Mr. Lincoln would attempt to coerce South Carolina back into the Union, and forestall the secession of other states, so soon to secede, the people of the South were prone to extract encouragement even from the ominous acts of nature. At twenty minutes before five o'clock in the afternoon of January 3rd, there was felt in Atlanta a slight though distinct shock of earthquake. Its range appeared to be east and west, and it continued about ten seconds. The sky was described as being "clear and cloudless" at the time, and the sun was setting with unusual brilliancy. The question was asked: "Who will account for it in this latitude?" *The Intelligencer* of the next day contained the following paragraph:

> "May not its coming and passing away so easily, with the clear and bright sky, be symbolical of the present political convulsion in the country, which, in the South, will pass away so easily, leaving the spotless sky behind . . .?"[1]

The paragraph was printed in apparent earnestness, but nature's convulsion proved a slender reed, indeed, upon which to base such sanguine hopes. For just beyond the horizon the storm was approaching that was to sweep the ante-bellum South, including Atlanta, into eclipse.

The day before the earthquake, January 2nd, an election was held in Atlanta and Fulton County to elect delegates to the State Convention to be held at Milledgeville on January 16th for the purpose of determining whether or not Georgia should secede from the Union. The vote shows that there was then a strong minority for cooperation with other states in the effort to settle the pending controversy with the Northern States without seceding from the Union. The vote was as follows in Fulton County:

For Secession

Luther J. Glenn	1053
Dr. James F. Alexander	1055
Dr. Joseph P. Logan	1059

For Cooperation

James M. Calhoun	692
George W. Adair	672
Thomas Moore	661

Fulton County was thus represented in the secession convention by a delegation pledged to vote for withdrawal from the Union.[2]

The situation was different in De Kalb County, the mother of Fulton. From its organization it had always been a Union county, its people generally supporting all measures and leaders favorable to the preservation of the Union under the Constitution. A majority of its citizens in 1861 favored further efforts, before secession, to end sectional prejudice and bring about a peaceful solution of the grave problems then threatening the Union.[3]

De Kalb was entitled to two votes in the secession convention, and after a lively contest, Charles Murphey of Decatur and George K. Smith of Stone Mountain, both lawyers, running as Union men and opposed to secession, were chosen as delegates to represent the county.[4]

During the campaign Mr. Murphey had frequently declared that he prayed he would never live to see Georgia out of the Union. Shortly after his election he came down with pneumonia and after a few days illness died on January 16th. The secession convention met that day. His prayer had been answered and De Kalb lost one of its best pioneer citizens.[5] He is buried beside a handsome obelisk in the Decatur Cemetery. The inscription on the west die reads as follows:

> In memory of
> HON. CHARLES MURPHEY
> Born May 9th, 1799
> Died Jan. 16th, 1861
> Wise as a Legislator, Conservative as a Statesman, he won early in life the confidence of his countrymen, which he held uninterrupted and unshaken to the day of his death.
> Kind as a neighbor, honest and reliable as a counselor and true as a friend, he never failed to receive upon all occasions the warm support of a large majority of his fellow citizens of De Kalb County.
> In the more intimate relations of parent and master, indulgent to a fault, he was loved almost to adoration.
> In affectionate remembrance of his many deeds of love and kindness, his only surviving daughter has placed this monument over his remains.[6]

At a special election for a delegate in lieu of Mr. Murphey, Dr. Peter F. Hoyle of Decatur was chosen, and took his seat on January 25th.[7]

Meanwhile, the secession convention had been organized and on the 18th Eugenius A. Nisbet, of Bibb County, offered a resolution declaring it was the right and duty of Georgia to secede from the Union, and for the appointment of a committee to draft an ordinance of secession. On an aye and nay vote De Kalb's only delegate then present, G. K. Smith, voted nay. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 166 to 130, showing the nearly equal division of the State upon the question of immediate secession. The committee reported an ordinance of secession the next day, January 19th, which was adopted by a vote of 208 to 89. Smith of De Kalb stuck to his guns. He voted no again. Dr. Hoyle did not arrive at the convention until several days after the ordinance had been adopted, but by subsequent resolution was permitted to sign the same, as Mr. Smith had done after its passage.[8]

The die was cast. There was no doubt about where old De Kalb stood now. It stood with the Confederacy.

Thomas Maguire of Rockbridge recorded in his *Journal* under date of January 20th:

> "Sunday—it is thought Georgia is out of the Union as James heard cannon fire last evening towards Atlanta, hope it is so, John is going to Lithonia this morning to know . . . sundown . . . John has returned from Lithonia, bringing the news that Georgia pulled out of the Union Saturday the 19th at 2 o'clock, by a vote of 208 to 89. Majority for secession, 119. The cannons were heard on Saturday night in honor of the occasion. There are now five states out of the Union. No more fighting in South Carolina heard from and I hope there will not be."[9]

While Georgia was settling the momentous issue of its secession, a number of newly elected candidates settled down in their respective offices, both in De Kalb and Fulton.

The bench of the Fulton County Inferior Court was graced by four new justices on January 10th. They were: William Watkins, a slave dealer, Dr. J. N. Simmons, Edward M. Talliaferro, a farmer of Blackhall District, and Clark Howell, proprietor of Howell's Mill. Zachariah A. Rice, slave trader and partner of Justice Watkins, succeeded himself but resigned in 1862 and was in turn succeeded by Powell Owen.[10]

On the same day De Kalb County swore in a new Inferior Court composed of Dr. Peter F. Hoyle, E. J. Bailey and Thomas J. Dean, farmers, both of Stone Mountain District, and Zachariah R. Jones and Charles W. McGinnis, both of Panthersville District, and likewise farmers.[11]

New officers of Fulton County, sworn in January 10th, were Clement C. Green, son of the pioneer, Alston H. Green, sheriff; Thomas A. Kennedy of Stone's District, surveyor, and Cyrus H. Wallace, merchant and brother of the noted John R. Wallace, treasurer. He died a few days later and was succeeded by Mark L. Roberts on February 20th. William Center succeeded William F. Wingfield, deceased, as tax receiver on March 21st.[12]

In De Kalb County Winston H. Cash, a farmer of Browning's District, succeeded L. B. Underwood as tax receiver, and Thomas Barnes, farmer, of Barnes' District, for whom it was named, became tax collector, vice Simeon Smith. Both took office January 10th. Thomas R. Hoyle, a brother of Dr. P. F. Hoyle of Decatur, succeeded K. A. Russell as clerk of the Inferior Court on August 10, 1861.[13]

The campaign for mayor of Atlanta, in January, 1861, was the most hotly contested and acrimonious such election since the Allison Nelson-Ira O. McDaniel race of 1855.

Dr. Ezekiel N. Calhoun, formerly of Decatur, and an older brother of James M. Calhoun, was nominated by "many citizens" on the 6th, and on the 8th he signified his acceptance. At a public meeting the same day Judge William Ezzard was nominated. There being considerable dissatisfaction with the result of this meeting, another was held on the 11th at which Judge Jared I. Whitaker was selected as a candidate. On the 15th Dr. Calhoun withdrew from the contest saying, on account of the strife and foul means resorted to, he could not be a participant in the struggle. The election was held on the 17th and resulted in a victory for Whitaker over Ezzard, 695 to 452.[14]

Mayor Whitaker never did finish his term. On November 25th, having been appointed by Governor Brown Commissary-General of Georgia Troops, he resigned and was succeeded on December 13th by Thomas F. Lowe.[15]

Councilmen elected to serve with Mayor Whitaker were:

First Ward—Felix Hardeman and Francis C. House (both carpenters).
Second Ward—William Watkins and James R. Crew (slave dealer and R.R. ticket agent).
Third Ward—Seymour B. Love and Robert Crawford (ex-sheriff and merchant).
Fourth Ward—Sion B. Robson and John H. Mecaslin (both merchants).
Fifth Ward—Thomas Kile and James Lynch (both merchants).

S. B. Love resigned July 6th and was succeeded by James G. Kelly, carpenter, on August 3, 1861. F. C. House resigned October 25th. Stephen B. Oatman, marble dealer, was sworn in to fill the vacancy on December 13th.[16]

At a convention (Confederate Provisional Congress) meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, February 4th-March 16th, 1861, Jefferson Davis was elected President, and Alexander H. Stephens, Vice-President, of the Confederate States of America on February 9th. Stephens was accorded this honor in spite of the fact that he had opposed the secession of Georgia.

En route from Washington, D. C., to Montgomery to assume his new office, President Davis paid a brief visit to Atlanta on February 16th.

Mayor Whitaker appointed a committee of gentlemen to meet the distinguished traveler at Resaca on the W. & A. R. R. and escort him to the Trout House. At eight o'clock A. M. the Atlanta Grays, under the direction of Captain A. M. Wallace, fired a salute of seven guns in the city park. At the same time the various fire companies formed in line and marched across the park to the hotel, where at nine A. M. a reception took place.[17]

The whole area about the hotel and park was crowded with people eager to see and hear the executive head of the Confederacy. Mayor Whitaker, in behalf of the city, delivered a brief but eloquent address of welcome, to which the President, in a burning and patriotic speech, responded. The occasion was one which was well calculated to inspire the orator. He discussed the political situation at length, and his audience was fairly kindled with enthusiasm.[18]

The parlors of the Trout House were placed at the disposal of Mr. Davis by the proprietress, free of charge, and the populace was given a cordial invitation to participate in the reception.[19] The special committee in charge of arrangements for the President's visit was composed of Lucius J. Gartrell, Dr. J. P. Logan, John W. Duncan, Dr. B. M. Smith and Captain Alexander M. Wallace. Much credit was due and given to George G. Hull, superintendent of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, for his courtesy and attention to President Davis on this occasion, he having furnished to the President and his entourage an elegant private car, free of expense.[20]

The visit of Jefferson Davis was an event long remembered in Atlanta, and did much to fire the patriotic impulses of its citizens at a critical time.

Some of the enthusiasm engendered by the Davis visit carried over to Washington's birthday a week later, when the latter occasion was celebrated in grand style. The weather was ideal, and at ten o'clock in the morning the various military companies formed on Marietta Street and marched to the female college building at Collins (Courtland) and Ellis streets. The order of march was: Gate City Guards, Captain G. H. Thompson; Atlanta Grays, Captain A. M. Wallace; Fulton Dragoons, James Williams; Atlanta Cadets, Captain W. P. Chisholm; Fulton Blues, Captain J. H. Purtell. Arriving in the college building the companies were arranged in a double row around the room. Professor Mayson took the stand and announced the program, which consisted of exercises by his pupils in the form of addresses, calisthenics, etc. Following the efforts of the pupils addresses were made by Captain Thompson, Private Orr, Captain Wallace, Dr. Brown, Captain Purtell, Lieutenant Wallace and George W. Sasseen.[21]

Closely following Washington's birthday came the visit of Alexander H. Stephens, Vice-President of the Confederacy, on March 12th.

Mr. Stephens was en route from Montgomery to Savannah. A committee of fifteen was appointed to receive him. Upon arrival the Vice-President was escorted to the Atlanta Hotel at which time a salute of seven guns was fired in the city park. After listening to an address of welcome, "Little Alec" made a speech of great power and eloquence in which he said that Fort Sumter would be surrendered within ten days. He was of the opinion that peace would prevail, yet he advised his listeners to prepare for war, for by pursuing this course peace could be more easily secured.[22]

Captain A. M. Wallace, undoubtedly one of Atlanta's busiest citizens at the time, served as chief marshal of the occasion. Only two weeks before he had shipped to Savannah the first draft of men from Atlanta for the regular army of Georgia, eighteen in all.[23]

Before the capital of the Confederacy was finally located, Atlanta, mindful that she had not yet secured the capital of the state, made a bid for the larger prize. Said the *Gate City Guardian:*[24]

> "This city has good railroad connections, is free from yellow fever, can supply the most wholesome foods, and as for 'goobers,' an indispensable article for a Southern Legislator, we have them all the time."[25]

As is well known, Atlanta's bid was unsuccessful.

The Fulton County grand jury for the second week of the April, 1861, term, commented among other subjects on education and the Confederate constitution:

> ". . . We have given some attention to the subject of Education in the County, and by reference to the books of the Ordinary, Mr. Joseph H. Mead, find that the whole number of Children and Youths of suitable ages for attending school returned to him in 1860 is 1998—that the number who have attended school and received the benefits of the public fund is 1684—that the number of days of schooling is 9000—the number of schools in the County, 35—the number of school-houses built, 16—number of teachers who have received certificates from the Board of Education, 28—the amount of money

received from the state, $1759—the amount received from the County Educational Tax, $3001—total $4760. We think these statements highly encouraging to the friends of the great cause of Education.

". . . Amid the rapid and momentous revolution which has taken place in our country, we feel called upon to speak of the Constitution adopted by the Confederate States as a great improvement on the Constitution of the United States, and while we highly appreciate the Liberty of the press, and free discussion which it guarantees to us, we feel bound at this particular time to call on all proper Authorities to exercise great vigilence, and enforce the laws strictly against the circulation of all incendiary publications in our midst, whether such publications come from slave holding or non-holding communities. . . ."[26]

Jonathan Norcross, Foreman.

Franklin Hayden
Columbus A. Pitts
Joseph Willis
James D. Kerlin
James T. Peacock
Lewis L. Abbott
Ephriam G. Ponder
Wesley G. Collier
John J. Thrasher
Isaac Suttles
Guilford B. Wilson
Cornelius P. Cassin
Coleman P. Harwell
Charles W. Dill
Ransom C. Gaines
Thomas Echols
Daniel L. Gordon
Eli M. Seago
Larkin Baker
Edgefield Brown
Thomas K. Waits
Jesse M. Weaver

April 12, 1861

The grand jury for the following week pointed out the danger of a fifth column and recommended the prompt organization of the Militia.

". . . We are pleased with the practical working of our Poor House as being conducted on a plan that will grant relief to the greatest number of people at the least expense. . . . Further, that all persons who are citizens of the County who are found begging be promptly sent there for support, and that all transient beggars be arrested as vagrants, and sent back from whence they came or otherwise summarily disposed of, as in that garb they may be the means of much mischief in these troubulous times by transmitting information to our enemies and otherwise. We cannot too strongly recommend to our good citizens to lend their aid to the officers of the law in suppression of the crime of carrying concealed weapons, which we find frequent, often among mere boys and youths. . . .

"In view of the present internecine war which threatens us, we cannot too strongly urge upon all our citizens the propriety of fully organizing our militia, and making up companies which will exercise in drilling . . . that they arm themselves as best they can, and by frequent meetings and drills, be ever ready for active and effective service, but that these companies ought not to be entitled to the privileges usually granted to Volunteer Companies. . . .

S. J. Shackelford, Foreman.[27]"

Some of the observations of the De Kalb grand jury for the critical month and year of April, 1861, are interesting:

"We are happy to say no prisoners are now confined in our County Jail, and that our public roads are in a tolerably good condition. . . .

"In view of the present war which has been forced upon us, we urge upon our citizens the propriety of a thorough organization of the militia. We recommend that all persons having the good of their country at heart, to organize themselves in companies and vigilant committees and arm themselves the best they can to meet the emergencies that may come. . . ."[28]

Zachariah R. Jones, Foreman.

Ezekiel Reeve
Robert Cagle
William Moseley
S. E. Brown
Nelson Anderson
A. T. Fowler
J. C. Austin
Jacob Chupp
J. T. Alford
J. T. Willingham
J. M. Hambrick
Simeon Smith
Ichabod Williams
L. B. Underwood
J. H. Young
E. A. Center
E. A. Turner
A. J. H. Poole
James B. Robertson
James H. Born, Clerk
George Key
P. H. Hightower

While the respective grand juries of Fulton and De Kalb were urging the militia of their counties to get organized and ready for action, Volunteer Companies were being formed on all sides. It would seem appropriate, therefore, to enumerate here the various companies formed in both counties during the period of the war.

FULTON COUNTY[29]

Muster Roll of 1st Co. D, 1st Confederate Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

Note: The names of officers and non-coms only, are given. See Cooper for enumeration of privates.

George W. Lee, Captain
J. R. Rhodes, 1st Lt.
John W. Brown, 2nd Lt.
William McConnell, 2nd Lt., Jr.
John F. Albert, 1st Sgt.
T. H. Turner, 2nd Sgt.
Allison Smith, 3rd Sgt.
Asbury C. Hollingsworth, 4th Sgt.
Christopher Hogan, 1st Cpl.
Samuel C. Robinson, 2nd Cpl.
Andrew J. Lee, 3rd Cpl.
John H. Steele, 4th Cpl.

109 Privates

(From records on file in the War Department this company was changed to Co. C, 1st Confederate Regt., Ga., Vols. The supposition is that it was consolidated with some other company and took the letter designated. The 1st Confederate Regt., Ga., Vol., Inf., was organized about May 1, 1862, and the companies first named were twelve months' troops, a majority re-enlisting for the war, while others were mustered out when the twelve months expired.)

Company F, 1st Regiment (Ramsey's) Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

"Gate City Guards"

William L. Ezzard, Captain
H. M. Wylie, 1st Lt.
C. A. Stone, 2nd Lt.
A. Leyden, Jr., 2nd Lt.
T. C. Jackson, 1st Sgt.
William Mims, 2nd Sgt.
A. G. Chisholm, 3rd Sgt.
P. M. Sitton, 4th Sgt.
P. F. Jones, 5th Sgt.
A. J. Orme, 1st Cpl.
J. M. Love, 2nd Cpl.
Albert Howell, 3rd Cpl.
Harry Krouse, 4th Cpl.

89 Privates

Company B, 7th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Northern Virginia, C.S.A.

Green J. Foreacre, Capt.
Horace H. Witt, 1st Lt.
Robert K. Dillard, 2nd Lt.
Wm. P. Moon, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Samuel L. Hape, 1st Sgt.
Wm. G. Barrett, 2nd Sgt.
Wm. R. Jones, 3rd Sgt.
Wm. G. Fishback, 4th Sgt.
Gideon W. Brooks, 1st Cpl.
Gabriel Valentine, 2nd Cpl.
George L. Bridwell, 3rd Cpl.
John C. Bridwell, 4th Cpl.
Ferdinand D. McMillan, Musician

107 Privates

Company K, 7th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

"Davis Infantry"

Wilson J. Ballard, Capt.
Jonathan J. McClendon, 1st Lt.
Wm. L. Hubbard, 2nd Lt.
John T. Walton, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Campbell McPherson, 1st Sgt.
Wm. H. Clayton, 2nd Sgt.
Charles K. Maddox, 3rd Sgt.
Edward B. Lovejoy, 4th Sgt.
Wm. M. Glenn, 5th Sgt.
James F. Walton, 1st Cpl.
Philip B. Sims, 2nd Cpl.
Robt. T. Harris, 3rd Cpl.
Samuel R. Hoyle, 4th Cpl.

61 Privates

Company F, 8th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

"Atlanta Grays"

Thomas L. Cooper, Capt.
James T. Lewis, 1st Lt.
Seymour B. Love, 2nd Lt.
J. M. C. Hulsey, 1st Sgt.
James W. Smith, 2nd Sgt.
John T. Bowman, 3rd Sgt.
Wm. A. Powell, 4th Sgt.
Wm. A. Thomas, 1st Cpl.
James A. Adair, 2nd Cpl.
Theodore A. Hammond, 3rd Cpl.
Mathew A. Heggie, 4th Cpl.
Charles H. Spear, Musician
Benjamin N. Williford, Musician

125 Privates

Company A, 19th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.

Frank M. Johnston, Capt.
Wm. T. Mead, 1st Lt.
Francis M. Stovall, 2nd Lt.
Wm. Mackie, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Wm. H. Anthony, 1st Sgt.
Geo. L. Hathaway, 2nd Sgt.
Volney Dunning, 3rd Sgt.
W. H. Owen, 4th Sgt.
Geo. P. Campbell, 5th Sgt.
John M. Harwell, 1st Cpl.
James M. Willis, 2nd Cpl.
Henry P. Shackelford, 3rd Cpl.
John Morrison, 4th Cpl.

53 Privates

Company B, 19th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.
"Jackson Guards"

James H. Neal, Capt.
Dennis S. Myers, 1st Lt.
John P. Kelly, 2nd Lt.
Peter Fenlon, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Timothy O'Kelly, 1st Sgt.
Richard Levins, 2nd Sgt.
Michael Haverty, 3rd Sgt.
Thomas Ennis, 4th Sgt.
John McGee, 5th Sgt.
Daniel Rogan, 1st Cpl.
James McGee, 2nd Cpl.
Thomas Daly, 3rd Cpl.
Henry Workman, 4th Cpl.

58 Privates

Company C, 21st Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A.
"Atlanta Volunteers"

Joseph F. Woddail, Capt.
M. T. Castleberry, 1st Lt.
Samuel D. Haslett, 2nd Lt.
Jesse G. Rucker, 2nd Lt.
Benj. F. W. Goss, 1st Sgt.
Henry W. Jones, 2nd Sgt.
Benjamin P. Barton, 3rd Sgt.
Jesse Cooper, 4th Sgt.
John Hammond, Sr., 1st Cpl.
Wm. G. Berry, 2nd Cpl.
Columbus M. Wells, 3rd Cpl.
Callaway Bruce, 4th Cpl.
Benjamin Knight, Musician

121 Privates

Company I, 42nd Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Tennessee, C.S.A. "Fulton Blues"

John H. Barrett, Capt.
Thomas A. Hill, ——
Francis C. House, 1st Lt.
Elijah M. Donehoo, 2nd Lt.
Osborn J. Register, 2nd Lt.
Harvey W. Bastain, 1st Sgt.
Lewis J. Wood, 2nd Sgt.
Wiley F. Baker, 3rd Sgt.
Benj. F. Grubbs, 4th Sgt.
James D. Robinson, 5th Sgt.
Wm. A. Winters, 1st Cpl.
Wm. F. Barrett, 2nd Cpl.
Wm. S. Baker, 3rd Cpl.
James T. Smith, 4th Cpl.

115 Privates

Company F, 20th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, C.S.A. "Confederate Continentals"

Eli M. Seago, Capt.
George S. Thomas, 1st Lt.
Wm. L. Abbott, 2nd Lt.
John B. Richards, 2nd Lt.
Benj. F. Abbott, 1st Sgt.
John S. Sligh, 2nd Sgt.
Wm. J. Cain, 3rd Sgt.
John H. Stellings, 4th Sgt.
Wm. H. Kicklighter, 1st Cpl.
Geo. W. Thompson, 2nd Cpl.
John M. Love, 3rd Cpl.
James A. Graham, 4th Cpl.
Benj. L. Cain, Drummer

91 Privates

Company K, 42nd Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Tennessee, C.S.A. "Calhoun Guards"

Robert F. Maddox, Capt.
Wm. L. Calhoun, 1st Lt.
Thomas W. Davis, 2nd Lt.
Benson W. Adams, 1st Sgt.
Henry Y. Snow, 2nd Sgt.
Leonard A. Ratteree, 3rd Sgt.
Wm. T. Farrar, 4th Sgt.
Wm. J. Frederick, 5th Sgt.
Wm. C. Cockrell, 1st Cpl.
Benj. Harris, 2nd Cpl.
John T. Ware, 3rd Cpl.
Jiles R. Chapman, 4th Cpl.

110 Privates

Company K, 66th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Tennessee, C.S.A.

Thos. L. Langston, Capt.
James W. Henderson, 1st Lt.
Benj. F. Hammock, 2nd Lt.
Chas. W. Gray, 2nd Lt.
W. T. Williams, Cadet
P. Howard Thomas, 1st Sgt.
Thos. A. Kennedy, 2nd Sgt.
James P. Crane, 3rd Sgt.
Isham Davis, 4th Sgt.
W. K. Hurt, 5th Sgt.
John E. O'Dell, 1st Cpl.
M. D. L. Neil, 2nd Cpl.
Thos. G. Parks, 3rd Cpl.
S. T. Redenfield, 4th Cpl.

66 Privates

Company K, 64th Georgia Infantry, C.S.A.

Charles S. Jenkins, Capt.
Silas W. King, 1st Lt.
Barney D. Lee, 1st Lt.
Thos. R. Smith, 2nd Lt.
A. D. Stovall, 2nd Lt.
Hilliard H. Boring, Sgt.
M. Y. Brand, Sgt.
William Stringer, Sgt.
C. C. Anderson, Privt. Sgt.
James L. Moore, Sgt. Privt.
Wm. C. Brown, Corp. Sgt.
James W. Boss, Cpl.
Robt. L. White, Cpl.
Joseph M. Camp, Corp. Privt.
Sam'l Y. Allgood, Privt. Corp.

98 Privates

Company E, 64th Georgia Infantry, C.S.A.

J. S. Sulenberger, Sgt.
Hardy Jolly, Cpl., Sgt.
John Rosser, Cpl., Sgt.
Wm. S. Pate, Cpl.
Almond Powell, Cpl.
Benj. L. Smith, Privt., Cpl.

120 Privates

Company E, 56th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Tennessee, C.S.A.

J. F. Albert, Captain
S. T. Moore, 1st Lt.
J. T. Blackstock, 2nd Lt.
Leroy Griffin, 2nd Lt.
D. C. Coker, 1st Sgt.
Cornelius Brown, 3rd Sgt.
G. W. Blackstock, 4th Sgt.
J. M. Stanley, 5th Sgt.
Jeptha Patterson, 1st Cpl.
A. C. Estes, 2nd Cpl.
W. T. Hamby, 3rd Cpl.
Stephen Brown, 4th Cpl.

104 Privates

Company A, 64th Georgia Infantry, C.S.A.

D. C. Smith, Captain
R. W. Craven, 1st Lt.
Jesse S. Thrasher, 2nd Lt., Capt.
John J. McKoy, 2nd Lt.
Thos. F. McCardell, Sgt., Capt.
J. D. L. Register, 1st Sgt.
Jesse G. Chewning, Sgt.
Wm. A. Landrum, Sgt.
Samuel F. Mann, Sgt.
Albert Taylor, Sgt.
Wm. M. Willingham, Sgt.
Hamilton Gragg, Pvt., Sgt.
Cicero C. Owens, Pvt., Sgt.
W. P. Mitchell, Cpl.
E. H. Smith, Cpl.
J. W. Trammell, Cpl.
R. E. Wright, Cpl.

133 Privates

Company C, 64th Georgia Infantry, C.S.A.

George S. Thomas, Capt.
John M. Rasbury, 2nd Lt.
Wm. C. Leake, 1st Sgt.
Henry C. C. Poe, 1st Sgt.
Archibald Clark, Sgt.
J. P. Hearn, Sgt.
James R. Horn, Sgt.
Thomas Micon, Sgt.
Henry T. Patterson, Sgt.
J. D. Smith, Sgt.
Wm. W. Stephens, Sgt.
Winder M. Huff, Cpl., Sgt.
Geo. W. Thompson, Cpl., Sgt.
Louis A. Berry, Cpl.
Perry Wade, Cpl.
Wm. A. Weldon, Cpl.

71 Privates

Company C, 3rd Battalion, Georgia Infantry

M. Kendricks, Captain
S. C. Rose, 1st Lt.
J. D. Gilbert, 2nd Lt.
T. D. Wright, 2nd Lt.
Wm. Hutchinson, 4th Lt.
John T. Thompson, 1st Sgt.
James McGriff, 2nd Sgt.
Wm. B. Richards, 3rd Sgt.
Thomas Knight, 4th Sgt.
James M. Allen, 5th Sgt.
Wm. H. Elliott, 1st Cpl.
Geo. L. Richards, 2nd Cpl.
John M. McVay, 3rd Cpl.
Nathaniel Harris, 4th Cpl.

57 Privates

Company A, 9th Battalion, Georgia Light Artillery, "Leyden's Battery"

Elias Holcombe, Capt.
William Barnes, 1st Lt.
A. S. Talley, 2nd Lt.
Wm. Randolph McEntire, 2nd Lt.
G. A. Lofton, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Peter Paul Noel D'Alvigny, Surgeon
W. W. Compton, 1st Sgt.
Geo. Travis Randolph Peddicord, 2nd Sgt.
James W. Henderson, 3rd Sgt.
Atlas P. Daniell, 4th Sgt.
Jack J. Johnson, 5th Sgt.
James W. Coker, Cpl.
Chas. Kesmodel, Musician

158 Privates

Company E, 9th Battalion, Georgia Light Artillery

Benjamin F. Wyly, Capt.
B. W. York, 1st Lt.
W. S. Everett, 2nd Lt.
W. A. Haynes, 2nd Lt.
W. R. Jackson, 2nd Lt.
F. M. Blount, 3rd Lt.
John S. Martin, 3rd Lt.
Peter F. Jones, 4th Lt.
Horace L. Cranford, 1st Sgt.
Alex Deaton, 2nd Sgt.
Mirabeau L. Collier, 3rd Sgt.
Robert H. Nash, 4th Sgt.
Jno. Tyler Cooper, 1st Cpl.
Thomas Caldwell, 2nd Cpl.
F. J. Bomar, 3rd Cpl.
Sid K. Ralls, 4th Cpl.
Harry Krouse, Q.M., Sgt.
Wm. J. Tanner, Commissary Sgt.

89 Privates

Captain Thomas E. King's Company, Company A, Atlanta Regiment—Georgia Volunteer Home Defense

Thos. E. King, Capt.
Joseph H. King, 1st Lt.
R. E. Shewmake, 2nd Lt.
C. W. Faulkner, 2nd Lt.
John Kinley, 1st Sgt.
Asa Bush, 2nd Sgt.
R. S. Paden, 3rd Sgt.
Solomon Touchstone, 4th Sgt.
John W. Brown, 5th Sgt.
S. Cicero Brown, 1st Cpl.
J. J. Hunter, 2nd Cpl.
Mat Voss, 3rd Cpl.
John Shewmake, 4th Cpl.

98 Privates

Company C, 4th Regiment, Second Brigade, Georgia State Troops, C.S.A.

M. W. Rasbury, Capt.
W. T. Albert, 1st Lt.
M. M. Bentley, 2nd Lt.
J. F. Christian, 2nd Lt.
J. E. Blackstone, 1st Sgt.
W. P. Garrard, 2nd Sgt.
Geo. W. Warren, 3rd Sgt.
D. C. Coker, 4th Sgt.
W. Pittman, 5th Sgt.
H. H. Phillips, 1st Cpl.
A. C. Turner, 2nd Cpl.
C. Brown, 3rd Cpl.
J. T. Hunter, 4th Cpl.
J. C. Alred, 5th Cpl.

58 Privates

Company B, 3rd Regiment, 2nd Brigade, Georgia State Troops, C.S.A.

Geo. W. Johnson, Capt.
Thomas M. Dean, 1st Lt.
F. P. Rice, 2nd Lt.
John P. Dean, 2nd Lt.
F. H. M. Henderson, 1st Sgt.
J. T. Willingham, 2nd Sgt.
W. A. Goza, 3rd Sgt.
T. B. Wilson, 4th Sgt.
H. S. Harwell, 5th Sgt.
R. J. Cowart, 1st Cpl.
D. Hackett, 2nd Cpl.
H. F. Holmes, 3rd Cpl.
J. W. Humphries, 4th Cpl.

50 Privates

Sixth Regiment, First Brigade of Georgia State Troops

J. W. Atwater, Capt.
Thos. Philpot, 1st Lt.
W. J. Walton, 2nd Lt.
C. Brunley, 3rd Lt.
J. A. Baker, 1st Sgt.
I. H. Turner, 2nd Sgt.
S. G. Alridge, 3rd Sgt.
I. W. Hunnicutt, 4th Sgt.
M. P. Verdney, 1st Cpl.
W. G. Wigley, 2nd Cpl.
I. M. Dean, 3rd Cpl.
I. E. Spencer, 4th Cpl.

59 Privates

Captain William A. Fuller's Independent Company, Georgia State Road Guards

Wm. A. Fuller, Capt.
John P. Mays, 1st Lt.
A. S. Bridges, 2nd Lt.
R. C. Buchanan, 3rd Lt.
John W. Richardson, 1st Sgt.
T. J. Clarke, 2nd Sgt.
Charles M. White, 3rd Sgt.
James A. Smith, 4th Sgt.
John Goddard, 1st Cpl.
Joseph Drake, 2nd Cpl.
Joseph H. Walker, 3rd Cpl.
John E. Fuller, 4th Cpl.
Dr. Wm. C. Asher, Surgeon

77 Privates

Most, if not all, of the members of this company were employees of the W. & A. R. R.

DE KALB COUNTY[30]

Company E. 7th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry. May 29, 1861

John W. Fowler, Capt.
John J. Powell, 1st Lt.
John M. Hawkins, 2nd Lt.
James L. Wilson, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Moses L. Brown, 1st Sgt.
DeWitt C. Morgan, 2nd Sgt.
Daniel E. Jackson, 3rd Sgt.
John W. Fowler, Jr., 4th Sgt.
Hugh H. Norman, 1st Cpl.
Wm. L. Norman, 2nd Cpl.
Robert F. Davis, 3rd Cpl.
Geo. W. L. Powell, 4th Cpl.
Chas. F. Galliger, Musician

140 Privates

Company A, 39th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry
"Murphey Guards."[31] September 26, 1861

John Y. Flowers, Capt.
A. J. H. Pool, 1st Lt.
John G. Rankin, 2nd Lt.
W. A. C. Miller, Jr., 2nd Lt.
James S. Jett, 1st Sgt.
George R. Wells, 2nd Sgt.
W. H. Pool, 3rd Sgt.
John G. Rainey, 4th Sgt.
John M. Hawkins, 5th Sgt.
S. G. Harris, 1st Cpl.
R. M. Wilson, 2nd Cpl.
S. W. Cochran, 3rd Cpl.
Edw. T. Harris, 4th Cpl.
W. O. Dodgen
Wm. H. Jenkins } Musicians
W. M. McLendon

195 Privates

Company K, 38th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry
"Bartow Avengers." September 26, 1861

William Wright, Capt.
J. J. Gober, 1st Lt.
G. E. Goodwin, 2nd Lt.
Geo. W. Stubbs, Jr., 2nd Lt.
John S. Johnston, 1st Sgt.
W. R. Henry, 2nd Sgt.
Joseph A. Maddox, 3rd Sgt.
F. L. Hudgins, 4th Sgt.
E. H. C. Morris, 5th Sgt.
F. M. Gazaway, 1st Cpl.
W. O. Ward, 2nd Cpl.
James H. Gazaway, 3rd Cpl.
James M. Walker, 4th Cpl.
Chas. W. Toney
James Toney } Musicians
Geo. W. Wade

142 Privates

Company D, 42nd Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry
March 4, 1862

Nathan Clay, Capt.
Wm. C. White, 1st Lt.
James H. Young, 2nd Lt.
Marshall J. Wright, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Nathan Turner, 1st Sgt.
Josiah M. Fowler, 2nd Sgt.
Thos. J. Jackson, 3rd Sgt.
Galen J. McWilliams, 4th Sgt.
Robt. Hollingsworth, 5th Sgt.
F. W. Kendrick, 1st Cpl.
David McWilliams, 2nd Cpl.
Robt. J. Parker, 3rd Cpl.
James H. Jordan, 4th Cpl.

170 Privates

Company D, 38th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry
"McCullough Rifles." April 1, 1862

John G. Rankin, Capt.
John W. McCurdy, 1st Lt.
George R. Wells, 2nd Lt.
John Baxter, Jr., 2nd Lt.
R. C. Hambrick, 1st Sgt.
P. B. McCurdy, 2nd Sgt.
J. W. Gresham, 3rd Sgt.
John A. Lafoy, 4th Sgt.
John D. Carter, 5th Sgt.
John W. Hill, 1st Cpl.
T. P. Smith, 2nd Cpl.
R. A. Ray, 3rd Cpl.
J. M. Nash, 4th Cpl.

93 Privates

Company F, 36th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry. April 10, 1862

Edward L. Morton, Capt.
C. M. Jones, 1st Lt.
George B. Hudson, 2nd Lt.
Wm. E. C. Wilson, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Sanford H. Beatty, 1st Sgt.
Wm. J. Donaldson, 2nd Sgt.
James R. Smith, 3rd Sgt.
James A. Moseley, 4th Sgt.
J. E. Jeffares, 5th Sgt.
Rufus Henderson, 1st Cpl.
James Thurman, 2nd Cpl.
John J. Holcomb, 3rd Cpl.
J. Thos. Jones, 4th Cpl.

134 Privates

Company B, 66th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry. July 16, 1863

C. M. Jordan, Capt.
J. A. Wright, 1st Lt.
A. H. Walker, 2nd Lt.
James W. Jolly, Jr., 2nd Lt.
Martin V. Worley, 1st Sgt.
M. G. Arrington, 2nd Sgt.
L. C. Wright, 3rd Sgt.
Benjamin W. Dodd, 4th Sgt.
James C. Bentley, 5th Sgt.
J. S. Craig, 1st Cpl.
J. D. Bowdoin, 2nd Cpl.
J. F. M. Harris, 3rd Cpl.
Fred G. Sassnett, 4th Cpl.

86 Privates

Company B, 66th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry. August 1, 1863

Moses L. Brown, Capt.
Osborne M. Stone, 1st Lt.
John M. Smith, 2nd Lt.
James F. Brown, Jr., 2nd Lt.
John D. Wooten, 1st Sgt.
Williamson Kirkland, 2nd Sgt.
Jeptha George, 3rd Sgt.
James B. McKoy, 4th Sgt.
Wm. Bryant, 5th Sgt.
D. K. Mustin, 1st Cpl.
Stephen A. Mann, 2nd Cpl.
Sanford Kelly, 3rd Cpl.
Bennett S. Tuggle, 4th Cpl.

88 Privates

Company H, 66th Georgia Volunteer Regiment, Infantry. August 8, 1863

L. D. Belisle, Capt.
J. M. Rasberry, 1st Lt.
W. H. Quillian, 2nd Lt.
Daniel O'Rear, Jr., 2nd Lt.
E. Holmes, 1st Sgt.
H. Hogan, 2nd Sgt.
J. S. Harris, 3rd Sgt.
Joseph Jackson, 4th Sgt.
Joel Williams, 5th Sgt.
W. Truelove, 1st Cpl.
W. G. Doss, 2nd Cpl.
John Barron, 3rd Cpl.
William Shaver, 4th Cpl.

94 Privates

Company A, 10th Regiment, Cavalry, Georgia State Guards
August 4, 1863

Milton A. Candler, Captain
Samuel C. Masters, 1st Lt.
William Wright, 2nd Lt.
William Belisle, 3rd Lt.
George W. Morris, 1st Sgt.
James W. Kirkpatrick, 2nd Sgt.
Joseph Walker, 3rd Sgt.
Samuel G. Winn, 4th Sgt.
Edwin A. Turner, 5th Sgt.
A. L. Pitts, 1st Cpl.
J. T. McWilliams, 2nd Cpl.
Chas. W. McGinnis, 3rd Cpl.
J. W. F. Tilley, 4th Cpl.

78 Privates

Although members of Atlanta's four volunteer fire companies were exempt from both militia and jury duty, the entire fire-fighting personnel offered its services for military and patrol duty. The tender was accepted on April 26, 1861, by Mayor and Council with resolutions of appreciation. Mayor Whitaker, in receiving the offer of Mechanic's Fire Company No. 2 on April 24th, by letter, said that "Washington should be rescued and our flag put upon it." The firemen were supplied with guns and ammunition by the city.[32]

During the October, 1861, term of Fulton Superior Court Judge O. A. Bull granted the petition of John L. Cutting, William P. Richards, James Toy, Henry Toy, William S. Everett, Francis M. Jack, W. P. Farrar, W. A. Haynes, P. Ennis and William O'Hallaron, that they be incorporated as Independent Fire Company No. 4.[33] Because of war conditions organization of the company was never completed.

The Gate City Guards, 75 strong, left Atlanta on April 1, 1861, for Pensacola, Florida, thereby providing the citizenry of the city with an occasion long to be remembered. Though a steady rain fell all morning a large and colorful crowd assembled at the depot to see the soldiers off. Miss Josephine E. Hanleiter presented the Guards with an elegant flag of the Confederate States which was accepted by Captain William L. Ezzard and entrusted to the care of Color Sergeant Peter F. Jones, standard-bearer of the company. Following the flag presentation, the company, through Sergeant A. G. Chisolm, presented Miss Hanleiter, as a token of appreciation, a beautiful lady's gold watch, inscribed: "Gate City Guard to Miss J. E. Hanleiter, April 1st, 1861."[34]

After more speeches, including an appropriate little talk by Miss Sallie Avary, a pupil at the Atlanta Female Institute, later to become Mrs. General Clement A. Evans, and an eloquent address by the Hon. T. R. R. Cobb, the members of the Guard boarded the cars. The thirteen-car Macon and Western train moved off amidst the booming of cannon and the cheering and shouting of the throng. Indeed every vantage point, the Trout House, Atlanta Hotel, Concert Hall, Macon & Western Freight Depot, and the tops of cars, were crammed with living masses of humanity, all eager to see and to cheer the departing soldiers.[35]

Two weeks later, on April 17th, the ladies of Atlanta, never lacking in patriotism and attention to the necessities of soldiers, formed an association for the purpose of making and providing bandages and lint for the volunteers at Pensacola. A meeting was held at the residence of Mrs. W. F. Westmoreland to inaugurate the work.[36]

When news of the secession of Virginia reached Atlanta on April 18th, local enthusiasm knew no bounds. All business was suspended. A salute of eight guns was fired by the Atlanta Grays. The bells of the various churches were rung, and at night bonfires were built in the principal streets, and fireworks shot through the air. Martial music was heard on every side. All the principal business buildings and offices were illuminated, and there was greater excitement than had prevailed since Georgia herself had seceded.[37]

The following day a committee of safety was organized, whose duty it was to care for the families of those who had volunteered to serve in the armies of the Confederacy. On April 27th a number of Atlanta physicians tendered their services gratuitously to the destitute families of citizens who had engaged in the military service of the Confederate government. This written tender was signed by Doctors Thomas S. Powell, Joshua Gilbert, John G. Westmoreland, Joseph P. Logan, Daniel C. O'Keefe, Elisha J. Roach, Hayden

Coe, James F. Alexander, Thomas S. Denny, W. A. Shelby, Solomon S. Beach, Henry L. Wilson, Thomas C. H. Wilson, Daniel O. C. Heery, H. W. Brown and Harrison Westmoreland.[38]

A faculty meeting of the Atlanta Medical College was held August 6, 1861. The secretary had started writing his minutes and had noted those present. He then begun a new sentence, but for some reason it was never finished. It seemed as if some great catastrophe had suddenly overwhelmed the meeting. While local devastation did not come for nearly three years, war had come. For the duration all exercises of the school were suspended and the college building converted into a hospital for Confederate wounded. A blank page follows the Minutes of the last meeting, which appropriately serves as an unwritten memorial to the faculty and Atlanta Medical College for the part which they took in a cause they thought was just.[39]

On August 9, 1861, it was stated that so far Fulton County was the banner county of the State as to the number of volunteers she had in the field. She then had eleven companies in the service, and one more, the Fulton Dragoons, ready to go. Besides these Atlanta had furnished 150 regular soldiers.[40]

While local manpower was being assembled and put into the field to forward the Southern cause, first steps were taken which transformed Atlanta into a veritable arsenal.

In 1861 Governor Brown called a convention of gunsmiths in Atlanta for the purpose of discussing the manufacture of guns in the city. In accordance with the convention's recommendations, Brown appropriated some of the forges in the machine shop of the W. & A. R. R. for the manufacture of gun barrels. Before plans had been definitely made for their manufacture, the Governor received an urgent request for the manufacture of 25 guns as soon as possible. The contract was given to John C. Peck, the owner of a planing mill at the corner of Decatur and Pratt streets. After surmounting many discouraging obstacles, Peck succeeded in producing 23 of the required guns together with six tripod rests.[41] The original bill for this work, dated December 27, 1861, shows that John C. Peck received $200 for 23 tripod gun barrels.[42]

The firm of Peck and Day (at this time Peck's partner was Francis Day) also aided in the manufacture of the famous "Georgia Pike." In 1861 a force of blacksmiths was put to work in the W. & A. shops for the manufacture of these weapons. As the machine shop lacked the proper equipment for grinding the blades and making the handles, Peck and Day contracted for this work for about 10,000 pikes.[43]

During the latter part of 1861 the Confederate government cast about in Atlanta for a central spot upon which to erect a building to house the offices of the Commissary Department. A short time prior to the search Wesley Chapel Methodist Church had deeded to its pastor, in lieu of back pay, the vacant lot between the church building and Houston Street, where the Candler Building now stands. The pastor had in turn sold the property to Frank P. Rice. It looked like an ideal spot to the Confederate commissioners, who made Mr. Rice a proposal to buy, offering Confederate bonds in payment. Rice would not accept the bonds and insisted on gold which the commissioners stated they could not obtain. Upon the failure of any agreement, the authorities confiscated the land and erected thereupon a two-story square frame building which was used for its intended purpose through the war.

When the war ended and military rule held sway in Georgia, the Federal government confiscated the building and the land on which it stood as "captured Confederate property." Soon thereafter, at the request of the Freedman's Bureau, the building was given to that organization, placed on rollers and moved down Houston Street to the northwest corner of Calhoun Street (Piedmont Avenue). It was dedicated to the cause of elementary education for Negro children, and as the Storr's School served that purpose for nearly fifty years. The old frame building, torn down in 1923, bore the distinction of being the only building in Atlanta, and one of the few left in all of Georgia erected by the Confederate government.[44]

While city council handled considerable routine business during 1861, its principal activities concerned issues made paramount by the war. A few extracts from the Minutes follow:[45]

Jan. 23—City income and expenditures of 1860 were reported:
Receipts, $47,399.62. Disbursements, $51,950.29.

Jan. 31—A Citizen's Meeting was called to consider the sending of Delegates to a Southern Congress to assemble in Montgomery, Alabama, February 4, 1861, to select a place for the Southern Capital.
On motion of Sion B. Robson, five delegates were appointed, and, upon the suggestion of Thomas Kile, the following were designated: Mayor Whitaker, ex-Mayor Ezzard, Lucius J. Gartrell, James M. Calhoun and Dr. Joseph P. Logan. They were empowered to use all honorable means to secure the location of the Confederate Capital in Atlanta.

Feb. 8—Money for uniforms was granted the Georgia Volunteers, but the payment of it was postponed indefinitely. The cemetery was reported to be in a neglected state.

Feb. 15—Dr. J. P. Logan reported on his Montgomery trip, stating that he did not press Atlanta's claims to be chosen as the capital of the new nation.

March 2—Resolution by Councilman Crew: That Messrs. James Ormond, Sidney Root and A. C. Wyly go to Montgomery and ask Confederate authorities to make Atlanta a port of entry.

Apr. 12—The Southern Confederacy Publishing Company elected city public printers.

May 3—No appropriation yet made by Council for needy families of soldiers. The Macon and Western R. R. sent $500 on May 2nd to be used by the Mayor for this purpose.

May 24—I. E. Bartlett was granted permission to sell refreshments (not spirits) to soldiers at Walton Spring, in a tent.

June 7—By proclamation of the President June 13th to be observed as a day of fasting and prayer. Business closed.

July 5—Governor Brown selected Atlanta as temporary headquarters of the Georgia State Military Affairs, the city furnishing offices. The Governor made his headquarters in Atlanta for three months. Council furnished his rooms.

July 6—Seymour B. Love, Clerk of Council, resigned to join the Atlanta Grays, with whom he went to Virginia.

Aug. 3—G. W. Collier still capturing stray hogs.

October —The Mayor appointed Sion B. Robson, Amos W. Hammond and Thomas Kile delegates to a Commercial Convention to meet in Macon, Ga., Oct. 14th.

The matter of Negro mechanics again came to the fore in early 1861. On January 4th City Council passed the following Ordinance:

"Whereas, the employment of Negro Mechanics belonging to persons residing outside of the Corporation of the City of Atlanta operates very injurious upon the interest of the Citizen Mechanics of said City, it is therefore

"Resolved that it is the sense of this Council that a Tax of one hundred dollars each should be imposed upon all Negro Mechanics whose owners reside out of said City, for the ensuing year."

One week later, on January 11th the above Ordinance was reconsidered and laid on the table.[46]

The chief offenders, if offense it might be called, were the Negro slaves of Ephraim G. Ponder, practically all of whom were skilled mechanics and allowed by their master to hire their own time. And, since Ponder, his wife, his slaves, and his estate made quite an impact upon the community during the period under consideration, it is appropriate here to relate the story.

Ephraim G. Ponder was born in Georgia about 1810[47] and for many years lived at Thomasville in Thomas County, where he was a planter and slave trader. He was successful in both endeavors and by 1857, having made a compentency, retired. Five years before, in 1852, he had married Ellen B. Gregory, a beautiful, accomplished and wealthy lady, fourteen years his junior. What attracted the couple to the Atlanta area is not of record, but come they did and on November 25, 1857, Ponder purchased from J. J. "Cousin John" Thrasher 26-35/100 acres of Land Lot No. 81 in the 14th District for $1,460.[48] This property lay along Marictta Road and the W. & A. R. R., 1½ miles from the center of the city. It is now traversed by Ponder Avenue, Northwest, named for Ponder, and by numerous contiguous streets.

Shortly after acquiring his land, Mr. Ponder thereupon erected what in those days was considered a mansion, and even now would rate as a fine, commodious home. The house was constructed of stone, covered by white plaster. It was square in shape, two stories high and, in the center of the roof, was a small observation platform surrounded by a banister. The kitchen was a separate building a few feet back of the main house. It was an oblong one-story brick structure with small windows and wood shingle roof. A front porch ran across the entire front of the house which faced southwest, and the grounds, tastefully laid out, were planted in boxwood and fruit trees. It is reasonably certain that the Ponder gardens and those of "The Terraces," the Rawson home on Pryor Street, were the finest in and around ante-bellum Atlanta. Some of the boxwood from the Ponder place now, and for many years, has adorned the home of Miss Cordelia and the late Sarah Huff at 70 Huff Road, Northwest.

The Ponder mansion stood on high ground and if still standing would be bound by the following streets, none of which existed at the time: North, by Third Street, N.W., South, by Oxford Street, N.W., East, by Guyton Street, N.W., and West, by Ponder Avenue, N.W. In addition to his home, Mr. Ponder erected, contiguous thereto, a number of substantial frame buildings for his slaves, and three large buildings for manufacturing purposes, along the Marietta Road.

The latter buildings housed the mechanical activities of the Ponder slaves. Of a total of 65, nearly all of the men were mechanics. All, except the necessary household servants, a gardener and a coachman, were permitted to hire their own time. Mr. Ponder would have absolutely nothing to do with their business other than to protect them. Therefore, if anyone desired an article of their manufacture, they contracted directly with the workman and paid him his own price. These slaves were virtually free. They acquired and accumulated a modest substance and, except for complete freedom and education, lived happily and usefully.

One of the Ponder slaves, Festus Flipper, deserves special mention. He was a skilled carriage trimmer and shoemaker. After the war he conducted for many years a boot and shoe shop at 42 Decatur Street. Of his children, at least two distinguished themselves and were an outstanding credit to their race. Lieutenant Henry Ossian Flipper, U.S.A., became the first Negro to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point, being a member of the class of 1877. The late Rev. Joseph S. Flipper became a Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church and served also as Chancellor of Morris Brown University in Atlanta. Both were born as slaves.

Unfortunately, all was not peace and harmony at the Ponder estate. As Lieutenant Flipper says in his "Autobiography":

> "The mistress of this fortunate household, far from discharging the duties and functions of her station, left them unnoticed and devoted her whole attention to illegitimate pleasures. The outraged husband appointed a guardian and returned broken hearted to the bosom of his own family, where he devoted himself till death to agricultural pursuits."

It was in October, 1861, that Ephraim G. Ponder filed a petition for divorce in Fulton County Superior Court. Among the allegations made in the petition were that Ellen Ponder had committed adultery as long ago as 1854 with divers men; that she was a continual drunkard; had threatened her husband with a pistol; had used abusive language and treated him with the utmost disrespect. That Ponder was liberally endowed with patience is also indicated by the petition which sets forth that he did not become fully convinced of her infidelity until March 10, 1861. The petition further indicates the solvent condition of the couple, with slaves valued at $45,000 and home, $10,000.[49] It was not until June 21, 1871, that the divorce was granted, at which time Ephriam was living in Thomasville, his former home, to which he returned ten years before.[50]

Meanwhile Ellen Ponder continued to live at the Marietta Road home and the slaves continued as before since the marriage contract prevented the sale of any of the property without the mutual consent of husband and wife, and such consent was never asked for by either.

Three years after the master had departed, war came to the Ponder estate. Ellen refugeed, first to Macon, then to Fort Valley, leaving the estate in charge of Festus Flipper. In July, 1864, the home became a target for General Geary's Federal gunners stationed at what is now the intersection of Eighth Street, N.W., and Howell Mill Road. Confederate sharpshooters had taken up a position in the Ponder home, and this, coupled with the fact that the structure was the most prominent immediate landmark, sealed its doom.

During July and August, 1864, round after round of shot and shell were directed at the house, and while large holes were opened in the walls, it is a curious fact that the house never caught fire. It was said that a ton of shot and shell were found inside after the seige. As a residence it was rendered wholly untenable and was never occupied again.

The Ponder property was subdivided and sold at auction to various individuals during the early months of 1871 by George W. Adair, commissioner, and Benjamin May, trustee, both of whom were appointed by the Fulton County Superior Court. Thus passed from the sight, but not the memory, of man one of ante-bellum Atlanta's showplaces. The name of Ponder, like that of many other pioneer citizens, is perpetuated in the name of a street.[51]

The various grand juries of both Fulton and De Kalb, serving during the October, 1861, term, concerned themselves primarily with problems occasioned by the war. The Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the term had the following to say on the subject of relief:

"In our effort to relieve the families of the Soldiers, we offer the following Resolution: That the Inferior Court appoint a treasurer to receive and disburse the funds raised by county tax, and that a Commissioner for each ward of the city, and two for each Militia District in the county be appointed to receive applications for Relief, and to draw on the treasurer for such amounts as in their judgments will give present relief, and that each Commissioner be required to make a return of the same and the amount appropriated on the first Tuesday of each month."

JULIUS A. HAYDEN, Foreman.[52]

The following jury commented on the Poor House and currency:

"From the best information obtained we are unable to say that the management of the Poor House reflects the utmost credit on its keeper, Mr. Jesse M. Cook.

"As silver change is impossible to be had, and our community becoming flooded with a circulating medium commonly denominated shin plasters, and such circulating medium is indespensible, we recommend that the Legislature authorize the charter banking institutions of Atlanta to issue such small bills, redeemable in current notes at the Banking House where issued. This will save to the people the great inconvenience of sending change bills abroad for redemption."

Er LAWSHE, Foreman.[53]

From time immemorial war conditions have spawned hordes of speculators, out to turn a quick dollar in times of stress. The De Kalb County grand jury for October, 1861, term delivered itself emphatically upon that subject:

"In view of the present condition of our Country, the result of the unnatural and implacable war waged against us by the North, the scarcity of money, and the enormous high price of the necessaries of life produced by the closing of usual channels of trade, a large class of our community must necessarily suffer for many things which are essential to their comfort and welfare in life. And while this state of things has been brought upon us to a great extent by enemies without, still we regret to say it has been considerably enhanced by enemies within. We mean those capitalists who are using their means to speculate and reap immense profits upon the necessaries of life. And we earnestly hope that our Legislature, now shortly to meet, will take this subject in hand, and check so far as it can, this spirit of speculation, which is so rife in our suffering Country.

MOSES W. DAVIS, Foreman."[54]

For the first time in its history Atlanta became host to a convention of bankers on June 3, 1861. Known as a "Bank Convention of the Confederate States," it did important work in aiding the financial measures of the new government. Georgia, Alabama, Florida and South Carolina were represented, the Georgia delegates being R. R. Cuyler, S. Cohen, H. Roberts, Isaac Scott, W. S. Cothran, A. Austell, W. H. Inman, G. B. Lamar and W. E. Jackson. President of the convention was G. B. Lamar and vice-president, James S. Gibbs of South Carolina. Resolutions were passed for the banks to receive Confederate Treasury notes, and asking railroads and tax officers to take them.[55]

During the same year Atlanta acquired a new bank and in connection therewith, a distinguished family. Robert J. Lowry, then a youth of 21 and son of Colonel William Moore Lowry of Greenville, Tennessee, came to Atlanta and opened the private bank and wholesale grocery of W. M. and R. J. Lowry. After the war, in 1865 the elder Lowry joined his son as a resident of Atlanta. The grocery business was discontinued and father and son devoted themselves exclusively to banking. The elder Lowry was born in Washington County, Virginia, in 1813, but early in life moved to East Tennessee, settling first at Marysville, later at Jonesboro, and finally at Greenville, where he became the friend and supporter of future President Andrew Johnson. After moving to Atlanta he remained until his death on December 8, 1887. The *Atlanta Constitution,* summing up his character at that time, said:

"If any man's character was ever comprehended in a single word, Colonel Lowry's may be summed up in the word—Gentleness."

William M. Lowry was twice married, first, in 1835, to Miss Julia A. Eason, and second, after her death, to Mrs. E. A. Gordon, a sister of Dr. J. F. Alexander of Atlanta, in 1881. He was the father of nine children, all by his first wife. The sons were John Eason, Robert J., and William T. Lowry. The daughters, all of whom married well-known Atlantans, were: Virginia, Mrs. Reuben Arnold, Sr.; Fannie, Mrs. James H. Porter; Mary, Mrs. Robert C. Clarke; Julia, Mrs. Thomas D. Meador; Alice May, Mrs. Dr. W. A. Taylor, and Lelia P., Mrs. James C. Freeman. Colonel Lowry is buried beside his first wife in Oakland Cemetery. The career of Colonel Robert J. Lowry will be elaborated upon in subsequent chapters.[56]

During 1861 a number of good citizens of the Atlanta area, some residents since its earliest settlement, were removed by death. One was murdered; several died of natural causes, and others gave their lives for the Confederacy upon the field of battle.

Victim of the murder was Thomas Terry, proprietor of the celebrated war-time Terry's grist and sawmill on Sugar Creek in Land Lot 174 of the 15th District of De Kalb County, now a part of the section known as East Atlanta. Terry was born near Lawrenceville, Gwinnett County, in 1823 and had resided in De Kalb since 1841, when his widowed mother married widower Thomas Simmons, original builder of Terry's Mill. Simmons died the same year and was the first person buried in the nearby cemetery now called Sylvester.

In 1859 Terry employed, to work for him at the mill, a man named Walton Wilson, whose family lived in the neighborhood now called Reynoldstown near the present Georgia Railroad roundhouse. Wilson and his wife and children were furnished by Terry with a residence near the mill. When the war broke out Walton Wilson joined the army, becoming a member of Captain G. J. Foreacre's company of the Seventh Georgia Regiment, which was sent to Virginia. His family remained on the Terry place.

Sometime before, probably in 1859, James Wilson, a cousin to Walton, placed his children in a private school taught by one of Terry's relatives, but failed to pay the required fees. Terry, acting as agent, urged payment, whereupon James not only became infuriated, but made violent threats against Terry. James' father John joined in the feud. Subsequent incidents, all magnified by the Wilsons added fuel to the fire, until open threats were made against Terry's life and the Wilsons haunted Decatur Street hoping for an opportune meeting with the object of their wrath.

Thomas Terry spent most of Saturday, August 3, 1861, planting potato slips. Late in the afternoon he bridled and saddled his mule and set forth, via Flat Shoals Road, for Atlanta. On the north side of Decatur Street just west of Bell stood the residence and shoe shop of William A. Kennedy, Shoemaker Kennedy was quite elated that day, having just received a letter from his soldier son who had passed unscathed through the ordeal of First Manassas. He shared the letter with all and sundry who passed his door, including Terry. While Kennedy was reading the letter aloud John and James Wilson came up and, the reading concluded, invited Terry into the street.

Terry complied, saying at the same time that he desired no trouble. At this remark John Wilson lurched forward and landed a blow with his fist above Terry's right eye. Terry retaliated with a blow on Wilson's shoulder with an iron stirrup. At this point in the conflict James Wilson attacked from the rear and struck Terry a heavy blow on the side of his head with a champagne bottle. With his adversary felled John Wilson leaped upon the prostrate form and beat him savagely until dragged off by Kennedy and others. Dr. Joshua Gilbert arrived a few moments later, and while attempting to render first aid, found it necessary to repel an attack by another Wilson, a brother of James named Alston, who arrived on the scene with a handful of rocks.

The combined ministrations of Dr. Gilbert and Drs. Solomon S. Beach and H. W. Brown, who arrived later, were to no avail. Thomas Terry died of a fractured skull on Kennedy's porch at 2:15 A.M., August 4th. He was laid to rest on a hilltop in Sylvester Cemetery overlooking his mill and farm, where three summers later, opposing armies struggled in the conflict known as the Battle of Atlanta.

Meanwhile the Wilsons were rounded up by the police and confined in the Fulton County jail. At their trial for murder before Judge O. A. Bull in October, 1861, they were defended by Jethro W. Manning and prosecuted by Solicitor General N. J. Hammond. Feeling against the pair ran high and on October 12th the jury brought in a verdict of manslaughter in John Wilson's case and of murder in James Wilson's case. The former was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary at Milledgeville and the latter to be hanged on December 13, 1861. The case of James Wilson was carried to the Supreme Court which promptly affirmed the sentence of the lower court.

But justice sometimes slips a cog. James Wilson was never hanged. He was still in jail at Milledgeville when Sherman began his march to the sea. To swell the ranks of the State Militia, Governor Brown ordered the release of all prisoners. After brief service Wilson vanished, and has never been heard from since. Walton Wilson, the friend and employee of Thomas Terry saved the family from complete dishonor by giving his life for the Confederacy on some nameless battlefield in Virginia.

Thomas Terry's wife, neé Mary Jane Thurman, survived her murdered husband until September 4, 1903. One of their sons, William M. Terry (1854-1926) became a successful merchant, president of the Bank of Decatur Street, member of city council and an organizer and trustee of Grace Methodist Church.[57]

During 1861 De Kalb County lost a number of its oldest pioneer citizens, including two venerable ministers of the gospel. Rev. Isaiah Parker, who died in May, was born in North Carolina in 1774, and had been a Primitive Baptist preacher in and about De Kalb County for nearly forty years. At the time of his death he lived in Stone Mountain District, and is buried in an unmarked grave in Old Fellowship Cemetery near Tucker. Rev. Isaac Rosser, a veteran Methodist minister of De Kalb died in Atlanta in July. His natal year was 1779 and like his contemporary Isaiah Parker, he also was born in North Carolina. Having lost his first wife in 1847, he was married a second time at 80, only four months before his death, his bride being sixty years of age. He is buried in the Decatur Cemetery.[58]

John McCullough, born in Ireland in 1794, and a substantial citizen of Decatur for more than thirty years, died May 2, 1861. He was followed, on July 17th by Judge Lochlin Johnson, born 1787 in North Carolina, a citizen of De Kalb since its creation, and a prime factor in its early development. Both of these pioneers are buried in the old Decatur Cemetery.[59]

In the death, on June 11, 1861, of Oswald Houston, Atlanta lost the good citizen who kept watch over its finances in its formative years as a city, through long service as city treasurer. He was born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, in 1798, and after residence in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Savannah, Georgia, moved to Atlanta in May, 1847. Here he engaged in merchandising and became an organizer of the First Presbyterian Church, serving as one of its first ruling elders. He was stricken with paralysis about 1855 and remained an invalid the rest of his life. He rests in Oakland, surrounded by many of his contemporaries. Houston Street in Atlanta bears the name of this pioneer citizen.[60]

News of the outcome of the Battle of Bull Run, or First Manassas, fought July 21, 1861, was received generally in the South with elation. The relatively easy victory achieved by the Confederates seemed to presage a short war. A few days later, however, when the casualty lists were received in Atlanta, all was not joy. Some of its best citizens had died on that Virginia battlefield and many a local home and family were plunged into grief.

Two Atlanta lawyers and one of its educators were killed in action at Bull Run. John A. Puckett, a member of the Seventh Georgia Regiment, was born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, in 1823, and saw active service with the Palmetto Regiment of that State in the Mexican War. Later he came to Atlanta, where he settled, married and practiced law until his enlistment. He died on the field of battle with a bullet in his breast.

Sergeant James S. George, of the Atlanta Grays, Eighth Georgia Regiment, was born and reared in De Kalb County, and had only been in active law practice for two years in Atlanta at the time of entering service, though his talents insured a bright future. His law partner was Hardy I. Randall, grandson of Hardy Pace and the father of the brothers who later founded the well-known firm of Randall Brothers in Atlanta.[61]

Anderson M. Orr, a member of the Eighth Georgia, was born in Jackson County, Georgia, and attended Emory College, where his elder brother Gustavus J. Orr was then teaching. On leaving college Anderson Orr spent a year or two teaching, after which he entered the law office of Overby and Bleckley in Atlanta as student and law clerk. However, he subsequently returned to his first love, teaching, and was so employed when he enlisted. Late in the battle on July 21, as his regiment was returning from its forward position, Orr having just fired his rifle, paused to reload. While in the act, and facing the enemy, a bullet entered his throat. He expired almost instantly in the arms of another brother George S. Orr, who was by his side. Puckett, George and Orr were all buried on the battlefield.[62]

Several other Atlantans were killed outright at First Manassas. Among them were: John J. White, William M. Ballard, William E. Simpson, John E. Woodruff, William Todd, William H. Whitaker and William A. Bagwell, all of the Seventh Georgia, and R. B. Hamilton, of the Eighth Georgia.[63]

Still others were wounded in the engagement and died a few days or weeks later. In this category were Benjamin M. Watkins, of the Atlanta Grays, son of William Watkins, John F. Cook, of Captain G. J. Foreacres Company, Seventh Georgia, a son of Jesse M. Cook, for whom Cook's Militia District in Fulton County is named, and Lieutenant Bartley M. Smith, of the Atlanta Grays. Smith was born in De Kalb County, son of Simeon Smith, a pioneer of the Stone Mountain District. He studied medicine under Dr. E. N. Calhoun of Decatur, after which he was graduated from medical college in Philadelphia in 1851. He then settled in Atlanta, where he married the eldest daughter of Judge William Ezzard, and for many years was a partner in the drug establishment of Smith and Ezzard. He was a Mason and member of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1.[64]

Another member of the Atlanta bar was accidentally killed at Manassas, Virginia, on December 23, 1861, when he fell from his horse. Colonel Thomas L. Cooper, of the Atlanta Grays, Eighth Georgia Regiment, was the eldest son of Hon. Mark A. Cooper of Cass, now Bartow County. After completing his legal studies in Athens, Georgia, he commenced practice in Atlanta, and for several years ably filled the position of Solicitor General, Coweta Circuit. Upon Lincoln's election he was called to the command of the Atlanta Grays and made as good a soldier as he had a citizen.[65]

Atlanta's Gate City Guard, after brief service at Pensacola under General Braxton Bragg, was ordered to leave there with the First Regiment on June 1, 1861, for Virginia. Upon arrival in Richmond the regiment was ordered to northwest Virginia, and at Laurel Hill on the western slope of the Allegheny mountains, was placed under command of General R. S. Garnett. In July, 1861, six companies, including the Gate City Guard, were cut off from the main body of troops with the Cheat River intervening.

To effect an escape, the company elected to march across the mountains into an unsettled and unchartered wilderness. After four days without food, drenched by rain and lost, a hunter named Parsons, who had come up behind the column, offered to guide the company out of the wilderness.[66]

Exposure and fatigue, as a result of this trek took its toll among members of the Gate City Guard. Some died of fever and other ailments within a few months, while others became mentally deranged. Of the casualties, the following never recovered from the effects of exposure and starvation:

> E. A. Atkinson, Robert Badger, Albert Dudley, Joe Eddleman and Joe Farris, died in the Valley of Virginia. Frank Farris died at McDowell, Virginia; Z. B. Gatewood at Staunton, Virginia; M. Rote near Culpepper, Virginia; Jesse Thornton became deranged on the retreat, and died at home; John Wylie died of exposure; M. Witgenstein died at Staunton, Virginia, and H. L. King became deranged in the mountains. Private David W. Brown was killed while on picket duty at Green-Brier, Virginia, on October 3, 1861.[67]

During the latter part of '61 the Gate City Guard, its one-year term of service having expired, was mustered out at Lynchburg, Virginia. The organization was temporarily disbanded since the ranks of the company were too decimated to reorganize. However most of the remaining members joined different organizations of the Confederate Army, and the survivors fought to the close of the war.[68]

In October, 1861, Samuel Pierce Richards moved to Atlanta from Macon to reside in the city until his death at 86 in 1910. His older brother Jabez J., was already in Atlanta operating the book, stationery and music store later to become the S. P. Richards Paper Company. Mr. Richards kept a diary, and shortly after his arrival made the following entry, dated December 19th:

"Went to hear Blind Tom, the wonderful negro pianist, at City Hall. He is just twelve years old, and little better than an idiot, but he is truly one of the seven wonders."[69]

On December 31st, Richards wrote:

"But little hope of preserving the Union. The abolitionists and fire eaters are determined to destroy it."[70]

Down at the "Promised Land" plantation at Rockbridge, Thomas Maguire recorded some Christmas thoughts and observations in his *Farm Journal.*

"Dec. 25—Christmas Day, 24° clear & the promise of a pleasant day. There is not near so much bustle among the young folks as usual on this occasion. Abe's government has cast its shadow of war around the country, and gloom and seriousness is the effect, even among the young and thoughtless. It is to be hoped this misfortune will not long oppress our country, but that peace will soon be established & rejoicing once again resound through our country. I shall devote this day to writing to the soldiers that are enduring the hardships of camp life & standing between us as a wall of fire and the vandals of the North, so we comparatively are enjoying peace and the pleasures of home. All honor to the volunteers of the Confederacy—they deserve well of their country."[71]

NOTES—CHAPTER 39

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 107.
[2] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 104.
[3] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 24.
[4] *Ibid.*
[5] *Ibid.*
[6] "Garrett's Necrology." The surviving daughter was the late Mrs. Milton A. Candler, nee Eliza C. Murphey.
[7] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 24.
[8] *Ibid.*
[9] "Maguire Diary," 13.
[10] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.
[11] *Ibid.;* U. S. Census, De Kalb County, 1860.
[12] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta; "Garrett's Necrology."
[13] "Garrett's Necrology."
[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 107-108; "Garrett's Necrology."
[15] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 81.
[16] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899, p. 580; *City Directory,* 1859.
[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 110.
[18] L. L. Knight, "The Trout House," *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 8, 1894. This article is based, for the most part, upon the recollections of James E. Williams.
[19] *Ibid.*
[20] *Ibid.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 110.
[21] Reed, *Atlanta,* 110.
[22] *Ibid.,* 111.
[23] *Ibid.*

[24] Feb. 16, 1861.

[25] *Cf.* Coulter, *Confederate States of America,* 100.

[26] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1861, Book D.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1861, Book D.

[29] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 890-900. As taken from the State Muster Rolls, State Capitol, Atlanta. Cooper gives complete muster rolls, including those of old Milton and old Campbell Counties. The latter are not enumerated in the present work, since it deals primarily with De Kalb County, and Fulton as it was before the annexation of Milton and Campbell in 1932.

[30] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 25-27. Distinct De Kalb companies only. Many recruits from De Kalb were assigned to regiments already existing, and not consisting entirely of De Kalb citizens.

[31] Named in honor of the late Charles Murphey. Before leaving for the front, the Company was presented with a flag by Mrs. Murphey.

[32] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 247; Barker, "Council Minutes, 1861," *loc. cit.,* 294; Phillips, *History Fire Dept.,* 48.

[33] Minutes, S. C., Fulton, 1861, Book D.

[34] Fairman, *Chronicles, Old Guard,* 20-23.

[35] *Ibid.,* 25-26.

[36] Reed, *Atlanta,* 113-114.

[37] *Ibid.,* 114.

[38] *Ibid.,* 114-115.

[39] Calhoun, "History Atlanta Medical College," *loc. cit.,* 44-45.

[40] Reed, *Atlanta,* 116-117.

[41] Elizabeth Bowlby, "The Role of Atlanta During the War Between the States," *A.H.B.,* XXII (July, 1940), 184-185.

[42] Original in John C. Peck's scrapbook, now owned by his grandson, George Starr Peck, of Atlanta.

[43] Bowlby, "The Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 185.

[44] Peggy Mitchell, "First Methodist Church Started in a Log Cabin," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 15, 1923; Kurtz, "Atlanta's Pioneer Churches," *loc. cit.;* city directories, 1920-1925.

[45] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1861," *loc. cit.,* 293-295; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 77-81.

[46] Barker, "Council Minutes, 1861," *loc. cit.,* 293.

[47] U. S. Census, Fulton County, 1860, shows place of birth as "Ga.," and age as 50.

[48] Fulton County Deed Book C, 373. At the time of his death, in 1854, Cornelius M. Connally owned Land Lot 81 in its entirety.

[49] The same property valuations are given in the U. S. Census, Fulton County, 1860.

[50] "Ponder *vs.* Ponder," Record in the office of the Clerk of the Fulton County Superior Court.

[51] Numerous personal interviews between Sarah Huff and the present writer, 1930-1940; Miller, ed., *Photographic History of the Civil War,* III, 126-127. Pictures incorrectly captioned, "Potter's House. Henry O. Flipper, *The Colored Cadet at West Point, Autobiograhy of Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper, U.S.A., First Graduate of Color from the U. S. Military Academy* (New York, 1878), Chap. 1; *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 4, 1872, advertising auction of Ponder property; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Fort Hood and the Ponder House," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* June 1, 1930; "Garrett's Necrology."

[52] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1861, Book D.

[53] *Ibid.*

[54] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1861, Book D.

[55] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 206.

[56] Obituary, William M. Lowry, *Atlanta Constitution;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[57] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Murder of Tom Terry," *A.H.B.,* IX (Nov., 1936), 39; Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1861, Book D; 33 *Ga. Reports,* 207; "Garrett's Necrology."

[58] "Garrett's Necrology."

[59] *Ibid.* The death date on Johnson's tombstone, August, 1861, is in error. His obituary was published in the *Southern Confederacy* of July 25, 1861, wherein the death date is cited as July 17th. Funeral held from Decatur Presbyterian Church. The Rev. J. L. Rogers officiated.

[60] "Garrett's Necrology;" obituary, *Atlanta Intelligencer.*

[61] "Garrett's Necrology;" contemporary accounts *Atlanta Intelligencer* and *Southern Confederacy;* Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1861, Book D, memorial to Messrs. Puckett and George.

[62] "Garrett's Necrology;" contemporary newspaper accounts.

[63] *Southern Confederacy,* July 25, 1861.

[64] "Garrett's Necrology."

[65] *Ibid.*

[66] Fairman, *Chronicles, Old Guard,* 27-32.

[67] *Ibid.,* 36.

[68] *Ibid.,* 33.

[69] *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 16, 1924.

[70] *Ibid.*

[71] "Maguire Diary," 20.

CHAPTER 40

1862

DURING 1862 the tempo of the war increased mightily and the original territory of the Confederate States of America grew smaller, through Federal occupation of some of its most important river cities and other points.

In February came the surrender of Fort Henry on the Tennessee and Fort Donelson on the Cumberland River, followed by the occupation of Nashville during the same month. In April the Confederacy lost one of its best soldiers in the death of General Albert S. Johnson at Shiloh, or Pittsburg Landing in Tennessee; Huntsville, Alabama, was occupied by General O. M. Mitchel, and before the month was out New Orleans fell to Admiral Farragut. In May came the battle of Fair Oaks, or Seven Pines, in Virginia, followed in June by the occupation of Memphis, the Seven Days battles, Mechanicsville and Gaines Mill. Malvern Hill made headlines and produced casualties in July. August brought Cedar Hill and Second Manassas, while in September, up in Maryland, came bloody Antietam, or Sharpsburg. The battle of Perryville in Kentucky took place in October, while December produced Fredericksburg with its 18,000 casualties including the noted Thomas R. R. Cobb, of Georgia. The year closed, battlefieldwise, on December 31st with the battle of Murfreesboro or Stone's River in progress.[1] All hopes of a short, easy war had vanished.

The occupation of Huntsville, Alabama, on the Memphis and Charleston (now Southern) Railway on April 11, 1862, by General O. M. Mitchel, a division commander under Buell, was linked with the celebrated "Andrews' Railroad Raid." This daring project was designed to sever a vital artery, the Western and Atlantic Railroad between Atlanta, the heart of the Confederacy, and Chattanooga, which Mitchel expected to occupy upon learning that Andrews had destroyed the rails and bridges south of that place. Mitchel carried out his part of the plan as scheduled, on the 11th, but Andrews postponed the raid until the 12th, a contributing factor to its failure. Thereby hangs an interesting drama, with Atlanta as the stage for the final act.

James J. Andrews, a thirty-three-year-old citizen of Flemingsburg, Kentucky, and a man of courage and finesse, was chosen to lead the raiding party which consisted of twenty-two Federal spies—twenty Ohio soldiers and two Kentucky civilians. The precaution was taken to include qualified locomotive engineers and firemen in the group.

The appointed rendezvous was Marietta, Georgia, to which point the raiders, all in civilian clothes, went in small groups. On the night of April 11th all stayed at hotels in Marietta, and the next morning purchased tickets for various points along the W. & A.

Early on the morning of the 12th a mixed passenger and freight train left Atlanta pulled by the locomotive "General." The engine had been purchased in January, 1856, and was built by Rogers, Ketchum and Grosvenor at Paterson, N. J. The wheel arrangement consisted of a four-wheel lead truck and two pairs of five foot drivers, the rear pair being directly under the cab. Like all of its contemporaries it was a wood burner. Included in the consist of the train that April morning were three empty box cars next to the engine. The train was in charge of conductor William A. Fuller and engineer Jeff Cain.

Also aboard was Anthony Murphy, foreman of the W. & A. shops in Atlanta, who was en route to Allatoona to inspect a water pump.

Andrews' group, except two who overslept and were left behind, boarded the train at Marietta. From there it was a seven mile run to Big Shanty (now Kennesaw), where a scheduled stop of twenty minutes was made for breakfast, and where, by pre-arrangement the engine was to be stolen and the raid to begin. A determining factor in the choice of Big Shanty was the absence of a telegraph office.

At the usual call "Big Shanty! Twenty minutes for breakfast!" all hands, including the train crew, adjourned to the Lacy House for the morning meal, leaving the train unguarded. That was the signal for Andrews and his men to take action. The pin was pulled between the third box car and baggage car; Andrews, both engineers and the fireman mounted the "General," and, the other nineteen raiders having concealed themselves in the empty box cars, the abbreviated train pulled out considerably ahead of schedule.

As it got under way the noise attracted the attention of Fuller, Cain and Murphy, who jumped to the conclusion that some Confederate deserters from Camp McDonald, across the tracks were staging a dramatic getaway. Believing that the engine and cars would be abandoned a few miles up the line, the three railroad men set out in pursuit via the "ankle express," much to the amusement of the breakfast crowd.

Two miles up the line at Moon's Station the pursuers came upon a four-man section gang, where it was learned that the telegraph wire had been cut. This put a different light on the matter, and it dawned upon Fuller and Murphy that they were dealing with Federal spies rather than Confederate deserters. Section foreman Jackson Bond offered the use of his push car, a vehicle propelled by poles in the hands of riders. The offer was accepted and the pursuers, now numbering seven, jumped aboard.

Meanwhile the raiding party was encountering difficulties which it would not have encountered had the raid been made the day before, as scheduled. While the 11th was clear, the 12th was wet, and not conducive to bridge burning. Southbound traffic was light on the 11th but heavy on the 12th. Chattanooga being in imminent danger from Federal troops, the railroad officials were sending as much rolling stock South as possible, thereby creating much line congestion that day.

Andrews, with his suave manner, managed to bluff his way past switchtenders and station agents by proclaiming in an authoritative manner that he was rushing powder through to Beauregard at Corinth and that his train was merely the first section of the regular train which was following. His first serious delay was encountered at Kingston, junction of the Rome Railroad, where it was necessary to wait for several southbound freights.

Meanwhile the pursuing party was making headway in spite of raider obstacles such as crossties on the track and a removed rail or two. At the Etowah River, on the Cooper Iron Works siding, stood the locomotive "Yonah," which the raiders in their haste, failed to decommission—a fatal error on their part. It was commandeered by Fuller, Murphy and Cain, whereupon the pursuit quickened. Upon arrival at Kingston Andrews had gone and the Yonah bogged down in the congestion of the freight yard. However the Rome Railroad locomotive "William R. Smith" was standing above the congestion with Oliver W. Harbin at the throttle. It was boarded and the pursuit continued. This engine was brought to a dead stop near Adairsville by the removal of two rails.

Fuller and Murphy, undaunted, took to their feet and ran for two miles. Engineer Cain, thin and consumptive, fell out of the chase at this point, utterly exhausted. At the conclusion of their two mile sprint, the two railroaders flagged a southbound freight pulled by the locomotive "Texas," Peter Bracken, engineer. Bracken cooperated to the fullest. He backed his train into the nearest siding, uncoupled the cars and took up the pursuit, running in reverse. The "Texas" incidentally, was of a similar type to the "General," and was in fine running order, having just come out of the shop. It was built by Danforth, Cooke & Company, of Paterson, New Jersey, and had been put in service originally in October, 1856. Her fireman, on this exciting April pursuit run was Henry Haney, later a well-known officer of the Atlanta Fire Department, and son of Thomas Haney, an Atlanta pioneer.

A short distance north of Calhoun, Andrews ordered a stop for the purpose of again cutting the telegraph wire and removing a rail. Before the latter could be accomplished the shrill whistle of the "Texas" warned the raiding party that pursuit was close, the first such warning that the party had had.

Now it was nip and tuck, Andrews and his men could never get far enough ahead of the "Texas" to do any real damage. A box car was uncoupled and left standing on the Oostanaula bridge. The pursuers simply coupled into it on the fly and pushed it to the nearest siding. A second car was dropped between Dalton and Resaca. It was pushed ahead to Ringgold and side-tracked. Continued dropping of ties on the track proved ineffectual. An attempt was made by the raiders to fire their third and last car. It failed to catch and was never uncoupled.

Finally the "General," out of wood and water, and consequently of steam, died on the main line two miles above Ringgold. The raiders, each man for himself from that point on, took to the woods. Some were captured almost immediately by militia on foot and horseback, hastily assembled for the occasion. All were rounded up within a few days after the raid ended in failure on the rainy Saturday afternoon of April 12th, and were lodged in the old Swims jail in Chattanooga to await trial.

The daring railroad raid had failed of its purpose through a combination of delay, bad luck, bad weather and the perseverance of William A. Fuller and Anthony Murphy, whose zeal inspired the aid of fellow railroad employees.

As the result of a court-martial, held in Knoxville, Tennessee, during May, Andrews and seven of his associates were sentenced to be hanged as spies. Andrews on June 7th and the other seven on June 18th. It was originally planned to hold the execution in Chattanooga, but the movements of the Federals had become so threatening that adjournment was had to Atlanta. Just before the transfer Andrews managed to escape from prison on June 2nd, but was recaptured the next day on Williams Island in the Tennessee River. As a precaution he was put in shackles, his legs being connected by an eighteen-inch length of iron chain.

Andrews and eight of his men were escorted to an early morning train for Atlanta on June 7th and put aboard, the former for his last train ride. Upon arrival at the brick carshed the group was conducted to the barracks, a three-story building called "Concert Hall," which stood on the present site of the Peachtree Arcade. After a short wait Andrews was escorted to the street and put in a carriage drawn by two horses. The colonel and provost-marshal, Oliver H. Jones also got into the carriage, and, a file of guards forming at each side, the procession moved northward. Upon reaching the corner of Peachtree and Decatur streets, Rev. W. J. Scott, pastor of Wesley Chapel, now the First Methodist Church, was sighted, and requested to go along and officiate as chaplain. He demurred, but when Andrews himself remarked, "I would be glad to have you go," got into the carriage.

The procession moved slowly out Peachtree to Baker Street; thence down West Peachtree, then called Old Peachtree; thence to Alexander, then called Cedar Street, between the Peachtrees; thence to Peachtree Street. After a left turn the party proceeded north on Peachtree to a narrow country road, now North Avenue, which led to the residence of E. S. "Guinea" Luckie just below the present Piedmont Avenue. Before getting to the Luckie house the party turned left through the woods at a point where Juniper Street now runs, and continued north to a point corresponding with the present Third Street. None of these streets, including Ponce de Leon Avenue, then existed. A scaffold had been erected in low ground some forty or fifty feet from the present southeast intersection of Juniper and Third. Only a few persons were permitted to witness the execution, which took place promptly and without disorder.

The body of Andrews was cut down and buried, legs still chained, and without benefit of a coffin, under a nearby pine tree.

Between June 7th and 18th all of the raiders were brought to Atlanta and confined in the Fulton County jail on Fraser Street, seven of their number having been sentenced to hang on the latter date. Execution day dawned bright and clear. During the forenoon the condemned men, William Campbell, George D. Wilson, Marion A. Ross, Perry G. Shadrack, Samuel Slavens, Samuel Robertson and John M. Scott, all Ohioans, were conducted from the jail and, entering the death-cart, were driven away.

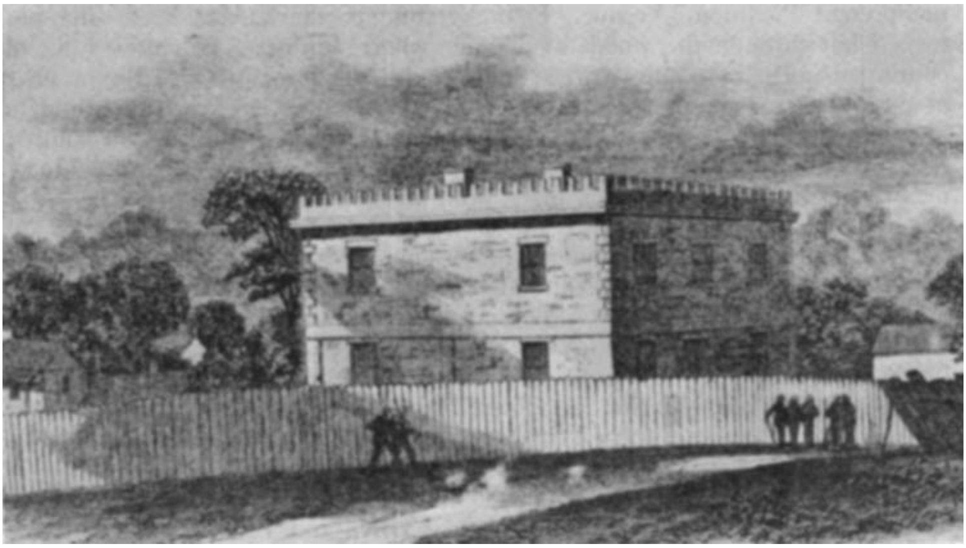
A long scaffold had been erected in a low lying wooded area near the southeast corner of what is now Memorial Drive and Park Avenue, S.E., and a shallow trench was dug a few feet away to receive the bodies. Only a small number of spectators were allowed to witness the execution which was under the direction of Colonel G. J. Foreacre, then provost-marshal of Atlanta. George D. Wilson, one of the condemned men made a short but eloquent speech from the scaffold, after which the traps were sprung and five brave men were sent to eternity. Two of the group, Campbell and Slavens, being very heavy, broke their ropes. The second effort on their behalf was successful. The seven were buried in the shallow trench, where they remained until the close of the war, when the national government had the bodies removed to the national Cemetery at Chattanooga.

There were no more executions of Andrews' men. Eight, including Wilson W. Brown and William J. Knight, the two locomotive engineers of the group, escaped from the Fulton County Jail on October 16, 1862, and made their way to Union lines. The remaining six were exchanged as prisoners of war on March 18, 1863. This latter group included William Pittenger, of Company G, 2nd Ohio, who wrote a graphic account of the raid, titled "The Great Locomotive Chase."

The body of James J. Andrews lay undisturbed for a quarter of a century. The war in which he gave his life had long become history and the City of Atlanta had grown out to his lonely and nearly forgotten grave, when, on April 11, 1887, his bones were exhumed for reinterment in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga beside his comrades. The eight bodies are buried in a semi-circle, in the center of which is "Ohio's Tribute to the Andrews Raiders, 1862, Erected 1890," a granite pedestal surmounted by a bronze effigy of the locomotive "General."

There remain today but two survivors of the celebrated Andrews Railroad Raid. The locomotive "Texas" reposes, restored and on exhibit, in the basement of the Cyclorama in Grant Park. Its relentlessly pursued quarry, the "General," carefully restored and maintained by the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad, is on permanent display in the Union Station at Chattanooga.[2]

A footnote to the Andrews' affair is found in the *S. P. Richards Diary.* Under date of Saturday, June 7, 1862, Richards noted:



(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz, Sr.)

Fulton County's first jail. Erected 1855, destroyed by Federal soldiers, Nov. 1864. Built by Columbus Hughes, architect and contractor, this building stood at the northeast corner of Fraser and Fair streets, the latter now called Memorial Drive. It faced westward on Fraser St. All of the Andrews railroad raiders, except Andrews himself, were confined in this jail, June-October, 1862. From the building eight escaped and seven were taken to the scaffold for execution. From a woodcut in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper for Oct. 29, 1864, sketched by a staff artist of Leslie's shortly after the occupation of Atlanta by Federal forces under Sherman.

"A man was hung here today; the leader of the band that stole the engine and cars on the State R Road lately. His name was Andrews and he was executed as a spy by military authority—poor fellow he ought to have engaged in better business. . . ."

In late 1861, Governor Brown upset precedent by becoming the first chief executive of the State to be elected for a third consecutive term. The Governor received 46,493 votes to 32,802 for Eugenius A. Nisbet, of Macon, his opponent.[3]

During January, 1862, Fulton County acquired some new officers. William R. Venable, a former clerk of the Superior Court succeeded Benjamin F. Bomar; G. M. Walker replaced Daniel Pittman as clerk of the Inferior Court; S. B. Love again became sheriff, succeeding Clement C. Green; Daniel P. Ferguson replaced Mark L. Roberts as treasurer, and on March 10th W. I. Hudson became both tax receiver and collector.[4]

In De Kalb, at the same time, J. M. Hawkins became clerk, Superior Court; William Wilson, coroner, and James Oliver Powell, a son of Dr. Chapman Powell, assumed the dual responsibility of sheriff and clerk of the Inferior Court, the first instance where one incumbent held two county offices in De Kalb simultaneously. In March W. W. Davis took over the job of both tax collector and receiver.[5]

As the result of a city election held on January 15, 1862, James M. Calhoun became mayor of Atlanta, the first of four successive terms he was to serve. At the same time the following Council was elected:

First Ward—Isaac E. Bartlett and Stephen B. Oatman.
Second Ward—James R. Crew and James E. Williams.
Third Ward—John Farrar and James G. Kelly.
Fourth Ward—William Barnes and William B. Cox.
Fifth Ward—Calvin W. Hunnicutt and John H. Flynn.

During the year, councilmen Cox, Farrar and Barnes resigned. They were replaced by E. R. Sasseen, Dr. F. D. Thurman and James Noble, Jr.[6]

Officers elected by the Council of 1862 were: Henry C. Holcombe, clerk; John H. Mecaslin, treasurer; Benjamin N. Williford, marshal; Thomas Shivers, deputy marshal; W. S. Hancock, first lieutenant of police; George Stewart, second lieutenant of police; W. C. Moore, city physician; G. A. Pilgrim, sexton; H. L. Currier, surveyor; John D. Wells, clerk of market, and H. W. McDaniel, superintendent of streets. A board of health, appointed by the mayor, consisted of Drs. Harrison Westmoreland, E. N. Calhoun, John W. Jones, and James F. Alexander.[7]

Some of the matters to engage the mayor and council during the second year of the war are indicated by the Minutes of Council:

Feb. 13—The Commonwealth Publishing Company elected City Printers.
March 4—Dr. Pim, Medical Director of the Army of Tennessee, C.S.A., notified the City authorities that hospital facilities will be required; whereupon Council took prompt action.
March 28—All public arms were required to be returned to the City Marshal. City Assessors elected as follows: W. L. Adamson, J. S. Smith and W. A. Powell.
May 30—Councilman W. B. Cox resigned to enter army.
June 27—Col. Burton, C.S.A., came to Atlanta to select a place for the Confederate Armory. Councilmen Hunnicutt, Flynn and Williams were appointed a committee to confer with Col. Burton.[8]
July 18—Dr. John M. Johnson and Austin Leyden memorialized Council regarding sanitary arrangements of the Soldier's Hospital.
Aug. 22—Councilman Barnes resigned to enter army.
October —A committee of Mayor Calhoun and Councilmen Williams and Oatman was appointed to suggest amendments to the City Charter.
Dec. 26—On motion of Mr. Williams, Chairman of the Relief Committee, a smallpox hospital was ordered built. This disease was becoming almost epidemic in its spread.[9]

For the first time in its history, Atlanta became a military post in May, 1862, and, in August following submitted to the establishment of martial law.

The citizenry of the city were informed of their responsibilities in connection with the establishment of a military post by the following:

"HEAD-QUARTERS
MILITARY POST, ATLANTA

May 14, 1862.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1

In obedience to orders received from Brig-Gen., A. R. Lawton, Commanding Military Division of Georgia, in assuming command of this Post for the purpose of guarding the Government stores, to preserve order in and around Atlanta, and for the protection of all loyal citizens, and the punishment of all disorderly conduct, the following regulations will be strictly observed:

1. Details will be made daily to protect the Government stores and property, and guards will be posted at different points in the city for that purpose; also a scouting guard day and night to preserve order, acting in concert with the city authorities.
2. Sentinels will be posted on each Railroad train to examine and arrest all suspicious persons pointed out to them, and to make this order effective, Superintendents of Railroads are requested to instruct Conductors to cooperate with the Sentinels for this purpose.
3. Owners of all Cotton, Hay, or other combustible material, are required without delay to remove the same to such points of safety—distant from Government stores—as may be designated by the Commanding Officer of this Post.
4. Any Grocer or other person selling to or furnishing any officer or soldier with spirits or wine, which is prohibited, unless upon the order of an Army Surgeon, will be arrested and dealt with by the proper military authorities.
5. All officers, soldiers, or citizens found drunk, or otherwise disorderly in the streets, will be taken in charge by the guard and sent to these headquarters.
6. No officers or soldiers will be allowed to remain in and around Atlanta, unless such officers or soldiers be furnished with a permit from their respective commanders. And all commanders of troops stopping over in Atlanta will report the fact to the officer commanding this post.
7. No slave or free person of color will be allowed to walk the streets after the hour of nine o'clock, P.M., either with or without a pass, unless accompanied by his or her owner.

The officer commanding earnestly invites the aid and co-operation of his Honor, the Mayor, and City Authorities, and all citizens, in preserving good order and sobriety in the city, and specially requests of all persons to report to him any improper conduct on the part of any of the officers or soldiers under his command.

By order of

G. W. Lee,
Col. Commanding.

Lieut. John C. Hendrix, A. Adjutant."[10]

Under date of May 24, 1862, Samuel P. Richards made the following entry in his diary:

". . Our city is in a measure under Martial law now, and we have all had to obtain passes to prevent our being taken up at night and put in limbo. My pass or permit reads:

Confederate States of America
Office of Provost Marshal, Atlanta, Georgia
May 23, 1862

Permission is granted S. P. Richards to visit County and City upon honor not to communicate in writing or verbally anything that may prove detrimental to the Confederate States.

W. H. Battey, Capt. & Provost Marshal."[11]

The establishment of martial law in Atlanta created, as it has at all times and places where invoked, considerable comment and dissatisfaction among the people. It became effective by the following order:

Special Order HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT NO. 2
No. 14 CHATTANOOGA, August 11, 1862

Martial law is hereby established within the corporate limits and environs of Atlanta, Georgia.

GEORGE G. GARNER, A.A.G. By command of
GENERAL BRAGG

Upon receipt of this order Provost Marshal Lee issued the following:

ATLANTA, GA., August 12, 1862.

Martial law having been declared over Atlanta and its environs, I do hereby publish the following special order for the information of hotel and boarding house keepers:

Special Order. No hotel or boarding-house keeper or citizen within the limits of this city or its environs, will be permitted to receive any traveler or visitor until the visitor or traveler shall produce a permit, which permit shall immediately be delivered by the hotel or boarding-house keeper or citizen to the provost marshal. The traveler or visitor shall thereupon call upon the provost marshal and have the permit vised by him or a new permit granted to remain in or leave the city; and no hotel or boarding-house keeper or citizen shall permit any traveler or visitor to take away any package without having a permit vised by the provost marshal, or his permit to leave the city. Each hotel or boarding-house keeper or citizen receiving travelers or visitors shall return daily at 8 A.M., the names of such travelers or visitors received by them, or the permit before named to the provost marshal.

G. W. LEE,
Commanding Post and Provost Marshal.[12]

A few days later Mayor Calhoun received an order very distastful to him. It read:

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT NO. 2
CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Aug. 16, 1862

J. M. Calhoun, Atlanta, Ga.:

SIR: Martial law having been declared at Atlanta, Ga., you are hereby appointed civil governor for the same, and the following officers are appointed your aides: Isaac Bartlett, S. B. Oatman, James R. Crew, James E. Williams, E. R. Sasseen, James Kelly, William Barnes, John H. Flynn, C. W. Hunnicutt and F. D. Thurman.

The officers of the army are requested to aid Colonel Calhoun in the discharge of his duties.

GENERAL BRAXTON BRAGG.

J. R. SINGLETON, Brigadier and Inspector General.[13]

While the object of this order was to permit harmony to exist between the army and civil officers, Mayor Calhoun was non-plussed by the title of civil governor, and could find no law defining his duties as such. He gave vent to his feelings in a letter to Benjamin H. Hill, who passed it along to Vice-President A. H. Stephens for reply. The gist of Stephens' reply was that General Bragg had no more authority to appoint the mayor civil governor of Atlanta, than would any street walker of the city.[14]

The *Intelligencer* then chimed in:

"Admitting that Mr. Stephens is right, it appears that General Bragg had no power to confer the appointment of civil governor upon Mayor Calhoun. Therefore he has no duties to perform under that distinguished appointment. 'Governor Calhoun' is therefore defunct in our city as well as his corps of aides-de-camp by whom he is surrounded, and we trust that General Bragg will make no more appointments of like character, which confer only temporary titles, and give the distinguished recipient nothing to do."[15]

Mayor Calhoun continued to perform the office to which he had been elected by the people in a most creditable manner.

The writ of habeas corpus was suspended in Atlanta on September 3rd.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S
OFFICE, RICHMOND, VA., Sept. 3, 1862.

Special Orders,
No. 206

xxii. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus is suspended in Atlanta and for five miles around its corporate limits.

By command of the Secretary of War.

JOHN WITHERS, A.A.G.[16]

A few days later, on September 9th, Provost marshal Lee issued the following order:

"From the date of this order no livery stable keeper or other person will be permitted to hire a horse or horses or vehicles of any kind whatever to any negro slave or free person of color in this city or its environs, without a permit from the owner of such slave or the guardian of such free person of color, which order shall state the business they are going on, and the order shall be approved at these headquarters."[17]

There could no longer be doubt, in any Atlanta citizen's mind, that a war was going on.

The Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April, 1862 term took occasion to comment upon the jail and the patriotism of farmers in planting less cotton and more food crops during the year.

". . We find the Jail in excellent condition so far as cleanliness is concerned, and in every respect credible [*sic*] to the Jailer, Mr. Turner. We find two leaks in the roof of the jail house and think it necessary that they should be immediately repaired.

"We learn with a great deal of pleasure that the farmers of this County have determined not to plant the usual amount of cotton this year, and commend this highly patriotic determination on the part of our citizens. . . .

COLUMBUS A. PITTS, Foreman."[18]

Soldiers' relief and roads carried the burden of the De Kalb grand jury presentments for April:

". . . Fund for the benefit of Soldiers' families about exhausted. . . .

"We recommend the Inferior Court to take the present Grand Jury fund and make it a part and parcel of the fund for the support of indigent soldiers' families, and recommend the raising of no Grand Jury Fund for the future, till the present war is ended. We also recommend the Inferior Court to levy such a tax upon the State Tax, as they in their judgment think will be sufficient for the various County purposes. No poor school fund recommended. We further recommend the Inferior Court to levy such a tax upon the State as will be sufficient to raise the sum of $3000 for the benefit of the indigent soldiers' families of this County for the present year.

"We would call the attention of the proper authorities to the very bad condition of the public roads in the County. We do not expect them to be well worked under present circumstances, but think they should be kept passable. We are opposed to the Inferior Court paying physicians' bills out of the fund raised for the use of Soldiers' families. . . ."

JOHN W. FOWLER, Foreman.[19]

In the summer of 1862 City Council lost a valued member, and the combined volunteer fire companies of Atlanta, their first chief, when William Barnes accepted a commission as First Lieutenant in Company A, or "Leyden's Battery," Ninth Georgia Battalion of Artillery. Before his departure, ex-chief Barnes was presented, by the Department, and through his friend John H. Mecaslin, with a beautiful sword. The presentation was accompanied by appropriate ceremonies at the City Hall. Lt. Barnes was never again to enjoy the pleasures of civilian life. As Captain Barnes he was mortally wounded in the sharp fight at Sailor's Creek, Virginia, only three days before Appomattox, and died May 10, 1865. He was buried in Virginia, but a year later was brought to Atlanta and reburied at Oakland. His successor, as Chief of the Fire Department, was Samuel B. Sherwood.[20]

By the time William Barnes volunteered for service at the age of 38, the flood tide of patriotism which rose during the first months of war had ebbed. The irresistible rush to arms had about ceased. Twelve month enlistees were failing to reenlist, and it became necessary, in April, 1862, for the Confederate Government to resort to conscription. This first draft law spurred volunteering for awhile, but not in the spirited manner of 1861. Many men felt a desire to volunteer in order to escape the odium then attached to forced service. Even so, the ranks of the Confederacy were thinning out. Numbers of able-bodied men, who could afford to do so, were hiring substitutes to take their places in the army, a procedure legal if not eminently patriotic.[21]

The following notice, dated Atlanta, Ga., October 16, 1862, was posted conspicuously about town:

"ATTENTION CONSCRIPTS! I hereby give notice to all persons between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five in Fulton County, Ga., not in the actual service of the Confederate States, and properly subject to the provisions of the existing conscript law, that they must report to me, the enrolling officer, at the city hall, by two o'clock next Monday, the 20th inst. All persons exempted hereto-fore by the enrolling officer are included in this order and must report. All persons properly exempt by the present law must report their names, as well as the names of those acting under them, or the office or complaint by reason of which the exemption is claimed. I hereby, in most solemn and emphatic manner, warn all delinquents and skulkers of their peril in attempting to evade the high and overruling obligation of coming up to their duty on this occasion. Such vast and holy interests as you are now called upon to defend and pluck from danger, must not be trifled with. The government expects that every man will do his duty, and his whole duty, and every power is lodged in my hands to compel compliance if any should be so derelict as to withhold it. If any should be so misguided as to attempt to escape from the operations of the law, a military force is at hand fully organized for the apprehension and bringing back of such persons in irons. I feel confident, however, that it will not be necessary that such extreme measures shall be resorted to, but that all will promptly respond to the call of duty and patriotism.

D. C. SMITH,
Enrolling Officer, Eighth Congressional District."[22]

A correspondent of the *Intelligencer,* signing himself "290," under date of November 14, 1862, remonstrated with the "stay-at-homes" for not doing more for the soldiers in the field, who were almost naked. Their feet, he said, were leaving blood-stained marks upon the stones of the Northern frontier, and their unclad limbs were shivering and freezing in the blasts of winter. What was to be done? Why, put your hands in your pockets and give the last dollar, if need be. The writer said that he could name twenty men in Atlanta who had made, since the commencement of the war, $100,000 each, and he called upon twenty men to each give $500, and thus make up a fund to clothe the men who had made such prosperity possible.[23] The response to this somewhat exaggerated appeal is not of record.

By early 1862 Atlanta had become both a hospital and relief center for Confederate soldiers. Aside from a large general hospital at the Fair Grounds on what is now Memorial Drive at the Ed S. Cook School, and a convalescent camp on the W. & A. R. R. near the Ponder estate, many public and private buildings in the city were converted into hospitals or merely used for that purpose. Among them were the Empire House, Gate City Hotel (later called the American Hotel), the Medical College, Female Institute, Kile's Building, Hayden's Hall, Concert Hall, City Hotel, Powell's Hall, Hindman's Hall, the African Church, Holland Hall and Bank Hall. The Gate City, at the southeast corner of Alabama and Pryor streets was used primarly as a distributing hospital.[24]

In connection with the General Hospital at the Fair Grounds, the following advertisement appeared in the *Intelligencer* of June 3, 1862:

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

I am ordered to have built on the Fair Ground in Atlanta, Georgia,

Forty Buildings

For Hospital purposes. The contract for building the same will be given out to the lowest bidder on

Monday the 9th instant,

at the Fair Ground, between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock.

Buildings will be given out in numbers to suit contractors.

Diagram of Buildings can be seen at my office.

Wm. Bacon, A.Q.M.

From the spring of 1862 on, nearly every daily paper, on the front page under a heading "The Dead," carried a long list of Confederate soldiers, from every southern state, who had died, from wounds or sickness, in the several Atlanta Hospitals. Most were interred in the City (Oakland) Cemetery.

Anent the subject of sick soldiers, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary as early as February 28, 1862:

> ". . Our city is now full of sick soldiers, many of the large hotels and public buildings being appropriated as hospitals. Mrs. West proposed that we should go and see the soldiers and we went to one of the hospitals, but soon got enough of seeing such miserable beings as the sick soldiers are—dirty and ignorant as well as sick. One poor fellow died today, who in coming here passed within thirty miles of his wife, and prayed to be put out there that he might go home to die, but the rules of war would not permit, so he had to die among strangers. . . ."

Again, on March 5th:

> ". . . Our city is now full of sick and convalescing soldiers. Some 3 or 4 thousand are said to be here, and Sallie (Mrs. Richards) has been going to help make 'comforts' to keep them warm in the absence of blankets."

The ladies of Atlanta rose valiantly to the needs of soldier relief. Among the organizations working to this end were the Ladies' Soldiers' Relief Society, Mrs. Maria J. Westmoreland, president; the Atlanta Hospital Association, Mrs. Isaac Winship, president, and the St. Philip's Hospital Aid Society, headed by A. F. Freeman.[25]

A summary of the distributions made by the Ladies' Soldiers' Relief Society from April 1st to 8th, 1862, lists "68 shirts, 75 pairs drawers, 18 pairs of pants, 6 vests, 9 collars, 72 pairs socks, 25 towels, 7 handkerchiefs, 5 comforts, old cloths, 15 bottles of wine, 4 bottles cordial, 5 bottles brandy, 8 doz. eggs, hams, beef, butter, milk, coffee, tea, sugar, dried fruit, corn starch, gelatin, meal, grits, flour, rice, jelly, pickles, all-spice pepper, preserves, sage, etc."[26]

Besides contributions to the local hospitals, the Society made shipments to the soldiers in the field, which included such surprising items as "slippery elm salve" and "six spittoons." Along with the usual food-stuffs and clothes, went an unusual assortment of liquids, during early April. The list included "20 bottles of wine; 2 bottles catsup; 2 bottles porter; 2 bottles cordial; 1 bottle ether; 1 bottle tomato beer; 1 bottle number six; 1 bottle brandy cherries; 1 bottle honey; 1 bottle pepper sauce; 1 bottle mustard; 1 bottle cherry pectoral; and 1 bottle castor oil."[27]

Besides the regular organizations for soldier relief, knitting and sewing was constantly being done for friends and relatives in the service. And the ladies of the city met regularly at the City hall to make comforts for soldiers.[28]

By early 1862 Atlanta was well on the way to becoming one of the most important workshops of the Confederacy, providing war materials and every day necessities in great abundance. Besides many private enterprises, several government works were set up for the production of such divers items as buttons, belt buckles, spurs, saddlery, canteens, tents, railroad cars, revolvers, bowie knives, cannon, gun carriages, cartridges, etc.[29] The Atlanta Rolling Mill began rolling heavy plates to cover gunboats for the Confederate Navy, including the plating for its famous ironclad, *Merrimac*.[30]

In 1862 the Confederate government established a pistol factory on ground leased from Richard Peters, being the block now bounded by Piedmont Avenue, Butler Street, Hunter Street and the Georgia Railroad. The factory was under the direction of E. N. Spiller and J. H. Burr, who despite trouble in obtaining skilled workers, and a lack of models and patterns, soon succeeded in producing "as serviceable pistols as Colt of Hartford ever turned out of his shop."[31]

In addition to the firm of Peck & Day, previously mentioned, the Novelty Iron Works, southwest corner Marietta and Bartow streets, produced ordnance supplies; the Empire Manufacturing Company, on Marietta near Jones Avenue made railroad cars and commercial bar iron for the Confederacy; Winship's Foundry produced great quantities of metal products, including the iron bolts for the plating and port doors of the *Mississippi,* later sunk by Federal forces in the occupation of New Orleans. The Atlanta Machine Works, on the Georgia Railroad at King Street turned out ordinance; the foundry of W. S. Withers and Solomon Solomon, located on Marietta near Hunnicutt Street, turned out buttons, spurs, bridles, bits, buckles, etc., for the army; the Atlanta Steam Tannery, at Orme and Alexander streets, made army leather goods, while Hammond Marshall and William W. Johnson produced swords for Confederate officers on the west side of Marietta between Latimer and Simpson streets. The rifling of guns and cannon, made by the Atlanta Machine Works was done at the Western & Atlantic roundhouse. The Confederate Iron and Brass Foundry, operated by James E. Gullatt and William Barnes, did all kinds of iron and brass work.[32]

Headquarters for the Quartermaster's Department for the Army of Tennessee were established in the city soon after the war began. The Department provided not only tents, buildings, and camp and garrison equipage for the army, but also supplied its clothing. The quartermaster's clothing department, in charge of Major George W. Cunningham, employed several hundred women seamstresses, 22 tailors, 2 clerks, 2 trimmers, and two inspectors. Thousands of shirts, jackets, pants, hats and other articles of wearing apparel were manufactured here. Another important function of Major Cunningham's department was the manufacture of army shoes. This operation, when at the peak of its activity employed a hundred shoemakers in addition to leather finishers and other mechanics.[33]

In addition to the production of war goods, numerous private establishments were busily engaged in the manufacture of every day necessities. W. H. Seymore and Company made ladies' shoes. James McPherson, the bookseller, established a match factory just outside the city limits. Thomas S. Reynolds operated the Southern Envelope Factory. Wood, Hanleiter, Rice and Company established the Franklin Printing House and Book Bindery. The Confederate States Bible Society manufactured Testaments for army distribution. A trunk factory was owned and operated by Baswitz and Gudeman. Charles Bohnefeld operated a cabinet and coffin factory. A soap and candle factory was run by A. Dutenhofer and Company. Several vinegar and whiskey distilleries produced those commodities. Stewart and Austin operated a flour mill in the city, and Dr. Samuel Hape made dental and surgical supplies.[34]

Of course material shortages developed, as they always do in times of war. During April, 1862, an advertisement, reminescent of much more recent scrap drives appeared in the Atlanta papers. It read:

> "NOTICE! BELLS WANTED! The Secretary of War, through our Senator, Hon. B. H. Hill, requests me to get all the bell metal I can for cannon.
>
> "Will the churches hold back their bells? The foundries are stopped for the want of metal. The cannon is an essential arm of our defense. Will any be so unpatriotic as to withhold their church bells? I am authorized to receipt for all that may be tendered. Don't delay, for delays are dangerous."

The ad was signed by J. T. Montgomery, late captain commanding the Jeff Davis Flying Artillery.[35] Unpatriotic or not, the churches did not tender their bells with any degree of alacrity, and Captain Montgomery issued few receipts. Response to the ad was somewhat akin to that accorded the suggestion of a local grandstand patriot during World War II, that the locomotive "Texas" be removed from the cyclorama and broken up for scrap.

Another item in short supply was paper. One of three magazines published locally in 1860, folded in '61, and the other two suspended in '62. Though Atlanta was to become a haven for refugee papers before the war ended, the newspapers were becoming smaller and smaller. Early in 1862 they had begun to print occasional issues on half sheets. At that time the city boasted three daily papers: *The Intelligencer, The Southern Confederacy,* and *The Commonwealth,* of which only the former survived the war.[36]

The importance of Atlanta's four single-tracked railroads was spotlighted by the burden of war transportation. They groaned under the load, but rendered valiant service. By May, 1862, announcements, of which the following is typical, were appearing daily in the newspapers:

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS!

Owing to the pressure of Government Freight, no Freight for private parties will be received by the Atlanta & West Point Railroad, for shipment beyond West Point—until further notice.

W. J. SMALL, Agent.[37]

As time went on, with the burdens of war increased and the value of Confederate money decreased, freight and passenger rates were raised fifty to one hundred percent, and running time became so long that regular schedules were practically non-existent. At times trains of the Western & Atlantic ran so close together, carrying supplies from Atlanta to the army that there appeared to be one continuous line of cars and locomotives from Atlanta to Marietta.[38]

Aside from freight and supplies, the railroads had the additional problem of military personnel, the quick, the dead, and those in between. Conscripts from various points were sent to Atlanta for distribution to the various fronts. The sick and wounded came via rail from the battlefields in Tennessee and elsewhere to the hospitals in Atlanta. The bodies of dead soldiers, when accompanied by an escort, were transported free from Atlanta to Macon by the Macon & Western road, and all four roads were compelled to transport prisoners with their guards to Atlanta free of charge. The railroads were taxed beyond their ability to carry all of the refugees and civilians who applied for transportation.[39]

The six banks and bank agencies doing business in Atlanta in 1859, had been augmented in 1860 by two private banks, that of the Lowrys, previously noted, and John H. James. Mr. James, born in Henry County, Georgia, in 1830, the son of a farmer and blackmith, spent his early years on the farm, and came to Atlanta originally in 1850, where he clerked in a mercantile establishment for five years. From 1855 to 1860 he engaged energetically in the traveling auction and sales business. During the latter year he married Miss Susan C. Leonard, of Talbot County, Georgia, and, with a capital of $20,000 founded the James Bank in Atlanta the same year.[40] In 1862 the banking business brought to Atlanta the first representative of another family destined to loom importantly in its history. Walker Patterson Inman, uncle of Samuel M., John H., and Hugh T. Inman, was sent to the city as agent of the Bank of Ringgold.[41] The following year the Mechanics Savings Bank was established for the purpose of providing a suitable depository for laborers and the working classes generally.[42]

The Atlanta banks made numerous loans to both the Confederate and State governments, and held sizeable amounts of treasury notes and bonds of both. In May, 1862, the Bank of Fulton lent $100,000 in Confederate treasury notes to the State of Georgia to tide the State over until state treasury notes could be issued. The Georgia Railroad and Banking Company had previously lent $20,000 to the Confederate government for the subsistance of troops at Camps McDonald, at Big Shanty, and Stephens. By 1863 the Bank of Fulton held Confederate treasury notes amounting to nearly $500,000. All Atlanta banks suspended operations during the Federal occupation of the city in 1864, most of them never to reopen. The Bank of Fulton was in this category. The Lowry Bank and the James Bank were reorganized after the war, while the local business of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company was assumed by the Atlanta Savings Bank in 1875.[43]

The law of supply and demand in a war economy became manifest in Atlanta by 1862. S. P. Richards, the book and stationery man recorded in his diary under date of February 8th:

> "Business has been good this week, one day we sold $110 cash. Letter paper we now sell at $15 per ream or 75¢ per quire—good Yankee envelopes at 40¢ pack. Cotton sells at 30 to 40¢ in New York. It is about 7¢ here, but manufactured cotton goods are high, even homespuns. Printing paper is three

times its usual price, they say. All kinds of foreign goods and supplies are getting scarce and selling high. . . ."

Again on July 27, 1862:

"Sallie bought a callico dress of Mr. [Sidney] Root, a part of the goods that ran the blockade lately in the *Memphis* at Charleston. It cost $6.50 instead of $1.00 as formerly. The shoemakers here ask $12 to make a pair of common shoes; boots $20."

Mr. Richards' diary entry for September 6, 1862, has in it elements of exasperation and philosophy:

"We have closed our store at dark this week, being so hard at work all day that we were tired out by night. Our sales continue good and our profits also good, but yet I would willingly go back to old trade and moderate profits if we could only have peace and independence. We live now in a state of feverish excitement and disgust that gain cannot render bearable or desirable. When will the people of the North return to their senses? When will the fact that is so evident to all around them force itself upon their minds; that eight millions of freemen who are resolved to be free cannot be subjugated by them. Our people are far more united and determined to fight until death than were our forefathers of the former Revolution. It is possible that they may destroy both themselves and us, and some foreign power may then step in and take the spoils—but the once happy Union cannot be restored. They have killed it dead."

The Fulton County grand jury for October, '62, found justification for martial law and undertook to make peace with high prices and the scarcity of goods. It said:

"The public mind has recently undergone considerable excitement on the subject of Martial Law, and the powers and duties of functionaries appointed by Military authority to exercise jurisdictions without the limits of the Confederate Armies. Whilst instances of inconveniences to the citizens from the policy are frequent, no case of flagrant outrage has been brought to our knowledge. In the disturbed condition of the country we deem it better that inconvenience, and even annoyance should be borne by individuals than that the peace of the community should be disturbed or threatened by evil disposed persons who could easily evade punishment at the hand of civil authorities.

"Another subject which has excited constant and angry comment before the public is the tendency to speculation and advancement of prices. We are convinced that no class of the community is responsible for the evil more than another. It is the consequence of the scarcity of the articles of commerce and the inflation of our currency. Whilst enormously high prices on necessaries of life is a matter of sincere regret, it is unjust to charge this upon any particular class. The laws of trade regulate such matters, and all classes have ever been found willing enough to submit to these laws to receive the highest price an article could command in the market, and we regret to add that some classes of the community, whilst excepting them in their own cases, have been found uncharitable enough to censure others for doing the same. . . ."[44]

Isaac Winship, Foreman

Alexander R. White
Benjamin Morris
William Fincher
Hiram Casey
Benjamin Touchstone
Augustus H. Webb
Cornelius Sheehan
Larkin Baker
David Mayer
Ira O. McDaniel
Noah R. Fowler
Vines Fish
A. L. Fowler
Levi C. Wells
James N. DeFoor
Thomas C. Jackson
John F. Faith
Thomas W. McArthor
Thomas G. Healey

Roads, crops and a sanguine hope for the success of the Confederacy occasioned the following comment from the De Kalb grand jury of October, 1862:

"In looking to the condition of the various Roads in our County, we are constrained to make complaint against the Commissioners whose duty it is to have them kept in good order. We return the Snapfinger bridge on the Covington Road especially, as being almost impassable.

"In regards to the planting of cotton in our County for the next year—if planted to any great extent we cannot but regard it as a fatal step towards the destruction of the Confederacy. We respectfully recommend to our Senator and Representative from this County to use their influence in the passage of a law limiting the planting of cotton to one half acre to each hand over fourteen years old. We would also ask of them to use their influence in the passage of such a law as will prevent the distillation of grain.

"In conclusion, we most respectfully return our thanks to his honor Judge Bull, and the Solicitor-General for their courtesy towards us during this short term, hoping to meet them at the next term of our Court under more favorable auspices, when this beloved Confederacy shall record her name among the nations of the earth a separate and independent Republic."[45]

Joseph Walker, Foreman

Franklin H. Gay
John T. Meador
Alexander Vaughan
Robert H. Smith
James M. Reeve
John W. Stewart
William Sheppard
David Chestnut
Eli O. Estes
Joseph T. Henry
Winston H. Cash
Jeptha R. Adkins
Benjamin F. Shumate
John W. Miller
Archibald McElroy
William O. Hightower
James M. Beaty
William L. McClain
Eli T. Chapman

Note: There are no further De Kalb Grand Jury presentments of record until the April term, 1865. No record of juries having been empaneled in 1863. A grand jury was empaneled on April 25, 1864, John Bryce, Foreman, but its presentments, if any, are not recorded in the Minutes.

The advertising columns of Atlanta's newspapers of the 1860's mirror local conditions as fully and even more graphically than do the news columns, which lean to "news by telegraph" from a distance. The following appeared in the *Daily Intelligencer* for May 23, 1862:

MILITARY NOTICE

———O———

Two or Three More Companies

WANTED

———O———

Two or Three more Companies of Infantry are wanted to fill up my Regiment. Those desiring to embrace this opportunity of joining a good Regiment, will address me at

CAMP McDONALD

without delay, or report with their Companies in person, when they will be received, the bounty of

FIFTY DOLLARS

paid, and be mustered into the service of the Confederate States.

E. W. CHASTAIN.

DANCING ACADEMY

PROFESSOR NOTT'S Dancing Academy is on the corner of Marietta and Peachtree streets, Atlanta, Ga.

Young Ladies, Misses, and Masters, are instructed on Tuesday's at 4 P.M.; and Saturday's at 9 A.M., and 8 P.M.

P.S.—Society dancing, politeness and polished manners will be taught in a style that can nowhere else be attained to such perfection.

The School is now in successful operation.

TWO BAY MARES ASTRAY

Strayed from my stables, on the night of April 24th inst, two small dark Bay Mares. One of them has a scar over the left hip. The only marks remembered on the other, were marks of Harness and a short tail. A suitable reward will be given to any person who will bring them to me.

W. H. WRIGHT,
Ordnance Office.

A CARD

I have been informed by some of my friends that a report was in circulation, that I have been engaged in shipping cotton up in Tennessee to parties there for the purpose of smuggling through to the Yankees. I pronounce the man who uttered this vile slander, a LIAR, and a BLACK HEARTED SCOUNDRELL.

J. H. JOHNSON.

Palmetto, Ga., March 11, 1862.

The following are from the *Daily Intelligencer* of June 3, 1862:

CALHOUN'S PILLS

———O———

OWING TO THE BLOCKADE

Medicines have become extremely

SCARCE

We have contracted with

DR. E. N. CALHOUN

For all of his celebrated

FAMILY PILLS

As no more can be made while the blockade lasts, Families would do well to supply themselves now.

Retail Price, 75 Cents per Box

A liberal discount to Dealers. Reference is made to high testimonials contained in the handbills.

HAMILTON, MARKLEY & JOYNER.

FOR SALE

I will sell my House on McDonough street for Cash. Any person wishing to purchase a good piece of property, will call on me at the Georgia Railroad Machine Shop. The House is 46 by 36 feet square, two stories high, with eight rooms and a ten foot hall above and below. It has all necessary out buildings, and a good garden, with a variety of fruit trees and grapes.

WM. RUSHTON.

TAKE NOTICE

THE UNDERSIGNED, having been appointed Day Policeman, for the City of Atlanta, takes this method of informing the public, that all communications sent to him by Telegraph or otherwise, will receive prompt attention. Address

J. M. LESTER.

WANTED

AT THE

ATLANTA STEAM TANNERY

FOR CASH

5,000 CORDS BARK

AND CASH FOR HIDES

R. T. Henderson, Agent.

The following are from the *Daily Intelligencer* of September 13, 1862:

Confederate Shop

HENRY YOUNG ON DECATUR ST.

Atlanta, Georgia, will do work at the following prices:

Shaving	10 cents
Cutting Hair	25 “
Shampooing	25 “

And general satisfaction given to all.

Henry Young, Barber.

SUBSTITUTE WANTED

A SUBSTITUTE over forty-five is wanted, for whom a liberal price will be paid. Call at Intelligencer Office for particulars.

A CARD

The ladies of Atlanta and the surrounding country are respectfully requested to send all the Vegetables and Milk they can possibly spare to our store room for distribution among the sick soldiers now in our city. I will see that these articles are sent every day to the Hospitals. Persons sending vegetables from a distance in baskets or bags, will have them promptly returned if desired.

Mrs. Isaac Winship,
President Atlanta Hospital Association.

ATHENÆUM !

Lessee and Manager	Mr. W. H. Crisp
Treasurer	Mr. T. N. Conrad

LAST NIGHT

On which the Company can have the honor of performing—having to appear in Mobile on Monday

Shakespeare's Historical Play

KING RICHARD THE III

Duke of Gloster	Mr. E. R. Dalton
Earl of Richmond	Mr. H. Henry
Buckingham	Mr. J. Watkins
Lord Stanley	Mr. C. T. Wolfe
Prince of Wales	Miss Cecelia Crisp
Duke of York	Miss Eliza Wren
Queen Elizabeth	Mrs. W. H. Crisp
Lady Ann	Mrs. Jessie Clarke

By desire, Mrs. Jessie Clarke will sing

"ROCK ME TO SLEEP"

It is not recorded that the *Intelligencer* employed a drama critic. Therefore it is quite likely that the editor himself penned the following laudatory review of a performance of *Romeo and Juliet,* given at the Athenaeum on September 11, 1862:

"THE ATHENÆUM

"*Romeo and Juliet* drew one of the largest audiences at the Athenaeum on Thursday night, that has attended there during Mr. Crisp's engagement—large as they have usually been. Mr. Dalton's 'Romeo,' Mr. Crisp's 'Mercutio,' and Miss Wren's 'Juliet,' being the principal attractions, as the leading characters of the play. No one went away disappointed. Mr. Dalton's 'Romeo' was excellent and added to his popularity here—a popularity won in a few nights' performance, and which, we have no doubt, will be 'added unto,' the better he becomes known to our play going friends.

"As 'Mercutio,' Mr. Crisp was perfect. No living actor that we have seen in that character, and we have seen many—the most eminent on the stage for thirty years past—is his equal in 'Mercutio,' especially in the scene where 'Queen Mab's' visits to dreamers are described. It was certainly as fine a piece of acting as we have ever witnessed—adding much to our long and high appreciation of Mr. Crisp as an actor of the highest order.

"As 'Juliet' Miss Wren acquitted herself handsomely. The audience was delighted with the grace and elegance with which she sustained the lovely creation of Shakespeare's genius."[46]

As usual the grim reaper stalked abroad in '62 and took with him some of the best and oldest citizens of the Atlanta area.

George Lyon, a pioneer of the Lithonia District, who sired thirteen children, died in January, aged 75, and is buried in Macedonia Churchyard. Thomas L. Thomas, a native of South Carolina, but a resident of the Atlanta area for 30 years, died in March. He had been a local magistrate in Atlanta for 14 years and was also a local Methodist preacher. His death was caused by a congestive chill, brought on by his cares in nursing sick soldiers at his home. He is buried at Oakland.[47]

Oliver Gaines Kile, age 33, native of Gwinnett County and brother of Thomas Kile, a pioneer merchant, died in April of typhoid pneumonia contracted at Camp Kirkpatrick, where he was a member of Captain Elias Holcomb's company, the Leyden Light Artillery. Dr. Hayden Coe, a useful Atlanta physician, also died in April and is buried in Oakland. He was a son-in-law of the noted Jennings Hulsey, a De Kalb County patriarch. William A. Chisolm, born in Elbert County, brought up in Newton, and long time resident of Columbus, Georgia, who founded the Atlanta family of that name in 1857, died at Tate Springs, Tennessee, in June. He was brought to Atlanta for burial at Oakland.[48]

The deaths of James Loyd and James A. Collins, early merchants of Atlanta, both in 1862, have been noted. Joseph Hayes Mead, Fulton County's first Ordinary, died in office on May 23rd. He was born in Augusta, Georgia, in 1795 and served during the War of 1812 as a common soldier under General Floyd at the age of 17. After a successful mercantile career in Alabama he moved to Atlanta in 1846. Mr. Mead was noted as an expert and accomplished penman. He died leaving a widow, neé Sarah Howard, and ten children, and rests at Oakland. Robert E. Mangum, of a pioneer local family, became the second Ordinary of Fulton on June 24, 1862.[49]

Albert N. Abbott, a member of the firm of Seago & Abbott, wholesale grocers, died at 32 in September. He was a brother of William L., Lewis L., and Benjamin F. Abbott, all well-known Atlanta citizens. Harrison Lester, a pioneer carpenter and builder, died in March, while Colonel Greene B. Haygood, able lawyer, founder of Trinity Methodist Church, and father of Bishop Atticus G. Haygood, was gathered to his fathers on Christmas eve. Messrs. Abbott, Lester and Haygood are all buried at Oakland.[50]

Alexander Corry, born 1790, an original 1823 resident of Decatur, died in February at his home in Atlanta where he had resided for some years. He was a son-in-law of Mason Shumate, De Kalb pioneer, and is buried in Oakland near Judge Reuben Cone and John Glen, two other Shumate sons-in-law.[51]

Lawrence Sterne Morgan, last of Decatur's three pioneer Morgan brothers, died June 14, 1862. He was born in Brimfield, Massachusetts in 1806 as were his older brothers, Joseph, 1800-1854, and Enoch, 1804-1843. Joseph Morgan married Jane Kirkpatrick, daughter of James H. Kirkpatrick for whom Kirkwood is named. Enoch never married. The three brothers came to Decatur about 1832, and being skilled cabinetmakers, established the firm of J. and L. S. Morgan, manufacturers of furniture. The Morgan firm became the local counterpart of Duncan Phyfe, in good workmanship if not in style. Many Morgan pieces, chiefly in walnut, are still owned and used by some of De Kalb County's older families, having been handed down from generation to generation. Lawrence S. Morgan served De Kalb as a justice of the Inferior Court for some time. He was married, in early life, to Martha Jane McNeill, daughter of Colonel James McNeill, a soldier of the Revolution and pioneer resident of De Kalb County. In 1788 Colonel McNeill was a delegate to the convention which met at Augusta for the purpose of ratifying the Federal Constitution. He was a member of the Lower House of the General Assembly when the notorious Yazoo Land Act was passed in 1795, and recorded his vote against this colossal fraud upon the people of Georgia. After coming to De Kalb County in 1830 Colonel McNeill established a saddlery shop where he and his son Daniel turned out some of the finest leather goods in this section of the country. The senior McNeill died in Decatur in 1853 at the age of 96. He, his son, and the three Morgan brothers are buried in the old Decatur Cemetery.[52]

The ranks of local citizenry were further depleted during 1862 by battlefield casualties.

Major Eli W. Hoyle of Decatur, a member of the Seventh Georgia Regiment, was killed while bearing the colors to the front at Garrett's Farm in Virginia on June 17th. Rev. Robert F. Jones, a member of Wright's Legion, brother of Oliver H. Jones of Atlanta, and son of Zachariah R. Jones of Panthersville District, De Kalb, fell in battle on June 28th in Virginia. Pickens Noble Calhoun, son of Dr. and Mrs. E. N. Calhoun, and a member of the Fulton Dragoons, died August 9th in Virginia of typhus fever in his 23rd year.[53]

John D. Cowan, of Atlanta, Orderly Sergeant of Captain Fort's Company, First Georgia Regulars, was mortally wounded at Malvern Hill. Captain J. F. "Buck" Woddail, of the Atlanta Volunteers, 21st Georgia Regiment, was killed on the battlefield at Second Manassas on August 30th. Prior to the war he had been junior partner, with Jett W. Rucker, in the wholesale and retail grocery firm of Rucker & Woddail on Decatur Street.[54]

Captain William Tunstall Wilson of the 7th Georgia, former agent of the Western and Atlantic Railroad in Atlanta, city councilman and postmaster of the city from 1858 to 1861 was mortally wounded at Second Manassas and died on the field. He was referred to by General Joseph E. Johnston in a report to President Davis as "the gray-haired hero of many hard fought battles." Col. Wilson was 47 years old when killed and was the father of the late Dr. Henry L. Wilson of Atlanta. Another local casualty in the same battle was J. M. C. Hulsey of the Atlanta Grays, a native of De Kalb County and a rising young lawyer.[55]

George W. Floyd, of Company F, 20th Georgia, commanded by Captain E. M. Seago, was shot through the head at Sharpsburg on September 17th, while Major Caleb A. Whaley, of Colonel Lawton's Cavalry Regiment, was mortally wounded at Perryville on October 8th. He had been a brick manufacturer and contractor in Atlanta before the war. J. T. Sherwood and Thomas Ennis, both members of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1, were among those who fell at Fredericksburg on December 13th.

More and more local families were coming to realize that war was exactly what Sherman called it less than two years later.

That the Fourth of July, 1862, was a tame affair in Atlanta is indicated by S. P. Richard's diary. His entry for that day was:

> "Friday 4th. The once 'Glorious Fourth' has passed by very quietly this year. A Fireman's Dinner and a few faint poppers being all the celebration vouchsafed to it."

Christmas that year was also devoid of excitement, at least for the Richards family. Mr. Richards recorded:

"Thursday 25. We had a fine rooster for Christmas dinner which tasted quite as well as turkey. Santa Claus, as usual, brought the children some presents and they had a fine time. The weather too is unusually pleasant for Christmas, neither wet nor cold."

Down at Rockbridge the Thomas Maguire family enjoyed a Christmas turkey. Mr. Maguire recorded in his journal under date of December 25th:

"Dinner—we pitched in and made the turkey squak [*sic*]. He was worse cut up than Burnside at the Battle of Fredericksburg."[56]

NOTES—CHAPTER 40

[1] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 143-151.

[2] Authorities for the section covering the "Andrews" Raid are herewith cited in one footnote: William Pittenger, *The Great Locomotive Chase, A History of the Andrews' Railroad Raid Into Georgia in 1862* (9th ed., Philadelphia, 1929), Freeman H. Hubbard, *Railroad Avenue* (New York, 1945), Chap. 5, "The Other Side of Jordan;" Passenger Dept., N. C. & St. L. R. R., *The General, Story of the Andrews' Raiders* (Atlanta, 1895); *Report of John H. Flynn, Master Mechanic, W. & A. R. R., 1860* (Atlanta, 1861), Roster of W. & A. Locomotives; "The Battle of the Locomotives," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Sept. 29, 1935; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Historic Big Shanty—Now Known as Kennesaw, Ga.," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Oct. 23, 1938; Anthony Murphy, "Pursuit of Andrews' Raiders," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 8, 1931; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Civil War Days in Georgia," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* May 29, 1932; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Execution of James J. Andrews," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Mar. 8, 1931.

[3] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 211.

[4] Commission Book, Dept. Archives and History, Atlanta.

[5] *Ibid.*

[6] *Annual Reports, Atlanta,* 1899, p. 580.

[7] Reed, *Atlanta,* 246.

[8] It was finally located on the present site of the George Muse Clothing Co., northwest corner Peachtree and Walton streets.

[9] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 82-83.

[10] *Daily Intelligencer,* May 23, 1862, *et seq.*

[11] "Diary of Samuel P. Richards, Oct., 1860-Apr., 1900," p. 100. Unbound typescript, copy Atlanta Historical Society. Hereafter cited as "Richards' Diary."

[12] Reed, *Atlanta,* 119. George W. Lee, the provost marshal was a pre-war citizen of Atlanta. He is listed in *Williams' City Directory,* 1859-1860, as proprietor, with Dr. L. A. Guild, of the Senate Saloon, north side of Decatur Street between Peachtree and Pryor streets.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 119.

[14] *Ibid.,* 120.

[15] *Ibid.,* 121.

[16] *Ibid.,* 120.

[17] *Ibid.*

[18] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1862, Book D.

[19] *Ibid.,* De Kalb, 1862, Book D.

[20] John M. Harrison, "William Barnes, C.S.A.," *A.H.B.,* XXXI (Jan., 1947), 100-104; "Garrett's Necrology."

[21] Bell Irvin Wiley, *The Life of Johnny Reb* (Indianapolis, Ind., 1943), Chap. VIII, "Trials of Soul."

[22] Reed, *Atlanta,* 123.

[23] *Ibid.,* 124.

[24] *Daily Intelligencer,* May 23, 1862; *Barnwell's Atlanta Directory,* 1867, p. 25.

[25] Richard B. Harwell, "Civilian Life in Atlanta in 1862," *A.H.B.,* XXIX (Oct., 1944), 212-219.

[26] *Southern Confederacy,* Apr. 20, 1862.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Harwell, "Civilian Life in Atlanta in 1862," *loc. cit.*

[29] Mitchell, "Atlanta, Industrial Heart, Confederacy," *loc. cit.,* 20-27; Bowlby, "Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 196-197.

[30] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 116.

[31] Mitchell, "Atlanta, Industrial Heart, Confederacy," *loc. cit.;* Bowlby, "Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[32] *Ibid.;* 33 *Ga. Reports,* 500.

[33] Bowlby, "Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] Harwell, "Civilian Life in Atlanta in 1862," *loc. cit.*

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] *Daily Intelligencer,* May 23, 1862.

[38] Bowlby, "Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] Biographical Sketch of John H. James, *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 5, 1873.

[41] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 138; "Garrett's Necrology."

[42] Bowlby, "Role of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1862, Book D.

[45] *Ibid.,* De Kalb, 1862, Book D.

[46] *Daily Intelligencer,* Sept. 13, 1862.

[47] "Garrett's Necrology."

[48] *Ibid.*

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] *Ibid.*

[51] *Ibid.*

[52] *Ibid.;* Carl T. Hudgins, "Colonel James McNeill," a speech delivered upon the occasion of the unveiling of a marker on the grave of James McNeill in the Decatur Cemetery, Nov. 2, 1950. Mimeographed copy on file De Kalb Historical Society, Decatur.

[53] "Garrett's Necrology" and contemporary local newspaper accounts.

[54] "Garrett's Necrology."

[55] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 267.

[56] "Maguire Diary," 27.

CHAPTER 41

1863

THE observations of Samuel P. Richards, as the New Year dawned, are set down in his diary:

> "Thursday 1. We enter upon the new year with renewed hope that ere many months the dark tide of war will have passed away, and the blessings of peace be again restored to us. The tidings of another great victory have come to us from Tennessee; the invading army of Gen. Rosecrans, one of the enemy's most successful officers, has been hurled back with the loss of thousands of his men.[1] This is the day for Abe Lincoln to issue his dreadful ukase which will set the sable sons of Africa all free and independent! In the face of the defeats which his grand armies have met with recently the world will laugh to scorn such a Proclamation."[2]

The English-born Mr. Richards erred on the side of optimism. Before the year was out the high tide of the struggle had been reached, and the defeat of the Confederacy was only a matter of time.

In early May the Confederacy lost a stellar commander in Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, accidentally shot by his own men at Chancellorsville, Virginia. Jackson, Mississippi, was occupied by the Federals under Sherman and McPherson during the same month. During June General Rosecrans had begun to maneuver General Bragg's Army of Tennessee out of middle Tennessee into Georgia, while in early July came the great struggle at Gettysburg, where Lee was checked by Meade in Pennsylvania. The day following Gettysburg, July 4th, Grant, after a long siege, captured Vicksburg and thus placed the entire Mississippi Valley under Federal control.

Burnside occupied Knoxville, Tennessee, on September 4th, while Rosecrans with his army entered Chattanooga on the 9th. On September 19-20 occurred the bloody battle of Chickamauga, first major engagement to take place in Georgia. While Bragg scored a victory over Rosecrans, it was largely nullified by Bragg's failure to press his advantage.

On November 19th President Lincoln delivered his memorable Gettysburg address. Less than a week later the Confederates were forced to retreat from Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge overlooking Chattanooga. It was a poor year for the Southern Confederacy.

Before the year had run its course Governor Brown gave precedent another blow by being elected to a fourth consecutive term, defeating two aspirants, Joshua Hill and Timothy Furlow, by a substantial majority.[3]

John J. Thrasher and Columbus A. Pitts, who had represented Fulton County in the lower branch of the General Assembly since 1861, were succeeded in '63 by Seymour B. Love and William Ezzard. At the same time De Kalb elected Ezekiel A. Davis to succeed Milton A. Candler. James Polk of Cross Keys District succeeded Samuel F. Alexander of Stone Mountain as State Senator from the Thirty-fourth Senatorial District, which included De Kalb County, while Elihu P. Watkins of Atlanta replaced Andrew J. Hansell of Cobb County as Senator from the Thirty-fifth District, of which Fulton was a part.[4]

The election of officers to serve the City of Atlanta for 1863 was held on December 3, 1862. James M. Calhoun succeeded himself for a second term. The Council chosen for the year was composed of the following gentlemen:

First Ward—Isaac E. Bartlett and Stephen B. Oatman.
Second Ward—James E. Williams and Edward E. Rawson.
Third Ward—James G. Kelly and Dr. F. D. Thurman.
Fourth Ward—Edward R. Sasseen and James Noble, Jr.
Fifth Ward—Calvin W. Hunnicutt and Perino Brown.

There were several changes during the year. C. W. Hunnicutt resigned April 17th. Augustine C. Wyly sworn in May 8th. James Noble, Jr., resigned May 29th. James E. Gullatt sworn in June 19th. Isaac E. Bartlett resigned June 26th. Levi C. Wells sworn in July 10th. A. C. Wyly resigned August 21st. Z. A. Rice sworn in September 11th. E. R. Sasseen resigned as a member from the Fourth Ward August 21st and was sworn in as a member from the Fifth September 11th.[5]

Officers elected by the Council of 1863 were Henry C. Holcombe, clerk; John H. Mecaslin, treasurer; Columbus M. Payne, tax receiver and collector; Benjamin N. Williford, marshal; Thomas Shivers, deputy marshal; Thomas W. J. Hill, city attorney; Theophilus Harris, clerk of market; W. S. Hancock, first lieutenant of police; George Stewart, second lieutenant of police; Solomon S. Beach, city physician; H. L. Currier, surveyor; H. W. McDaniel, superintendent of streets; G. A. Pilgrim, sexton, and Patrick Fitzgibbon, hall-keeper and messenger.[6]

Deputy Marshal Thomas Shivers, erstwhile stagecoach driver in the days of Terminus and Marthasville, became the first Atlanta police officer to die with his boots on, and in true frontier style.

Captain G. Whitfield Anderson had served the city as first lieutenant of police under Marshal E. T. Hunnicutt in 1859. When the war broke out he became a lieutenant in the First Regiment of Georgia Regulars, and was badly wounded at the Battle of Sharpsburg in September, 1862, from which he was furloughed home to Atlanta. He had previously served for one year in the Mexican War, from which he returned with a collection of weapons, including a highly prized deringer.

While he had not fully recovered from his wound at Sharpsburg, he was a candidate for deputy marshal in 1863. The vote in Council resulted in a tie between Shivers and Anderson. The mayor cast the deciding vote in favor of Shivers. This led to ill-feeling between the candidates, and on Saturday night, February 1, 1863, they had words. The words grew hot, whereupon Shivers struck Anderson on the head with a pistol and, for good measure, threw a bottle at him. Anderson quietly told Shivers that he was unarmed and unable to protect himself, but would see him the next day.

On Monday, the 2nd, the two men met in front of Muhlenbrink's saloon on Whitehall Street between the railroad and Alabama Street, at which time Anderson said to Shivers, "I am now fixed up, are you ready?" Without further words both men drew their guns and exchanged several shots. Two bullets found their mark in the body of Shivers, from which he died in an hour. Anderson was unscathed.[7]

Anderson was indicted for murder by a Fulton County grand jury in April, 1863. He stood trial and was acquitted on a plea of self-defense by a jury of which J. J. Ford was foreman.[8]

Shivers, who was born in 1817, is buried in Oakland Cemetery. Anderson subsequently served as an Atlanta police officer and as a deputy sheriff of Fulton County, although immediately following the war he occupied the position of doorkeeper for the State Senate at Milledgeville. In 1881 his health failed, and he returned to his old home at Nuckollsville in Lumpkin County, Georgia. Here he died on November 17th of the same year. He is buried there. Atlanta has had few citizens so colorful as G. Whit Anderson.[9]

Atlanta's mid-war Council was kept busy with matters occasioned chiefly by the conflict and its ever closer approach to the city. Some extracts from the Minutes of Council for 1863 illustrate the trend.

At its first meeting the Council was addressed by Dr. Cummings, of South Carolina, and Dr. Willis F. Westmoreland on the subject of vaccination as a protection against the threatened epidemic of smallpox. On motion of Councilman Williams, a committee of one from each ward was appointed to provide for immediate compulsory vaccination of all persons liable to take smallpox, not protected from having had the disease or having been successfully vaccinated.

Feb. 4—Marshal Williford was instructed to take charge of City's effects in the late deputy marshal Shivers' hands. Resolutions of regret upon the sad and sudden demise of the Deputy Marshal, and sympathy to his widow and children, were adopted.

Feb. 6—By resolution, a red flag was required to be hung at places where smallpox existed.

Feb. 13—Police Committee authorized to employ as many secret police as they deem necessary for the public good.

Mar. 13—Mayor Calhoun notified Council that Mayer Jacobi & Company donated two tierces of rice (1000 pounds) for distribution to the poor.

Apr. 17—The sale of whiskey at retail was prohibited in the City by Military order.

May 1—Councilman Thurman offered a resolution that the City buy not exceeding 150 acres of land from the [Dr. J. B.] Badger estate for a cemetery, at $100 per acre. Passed, and the land purchased May 15th for $39,420.

NOTE:—The land was never used for a public cemetery, but was used for years as a site for a pest house and later for a City prison farm. The property is still owned by the City. Part of it is incorporated in the James L. Key Municipal Golf Course, and includes the site of the former Girls High School, now Franklin D. Roosevelt High School, 745 Rosalia St., N.E. Shortly after the purchase of the land from the Badger estate, in 1863, the City limits were extended in that direction (southeast) so as to include it, the first such extension since that of 1854 on the southwest. Prior to these two extensions the city limits comprised a perfect circle, one mile in diameter, with the zero mile post of the W. & A. R. R. as the center.

May 8—In view of the [cavalry] raid [May 3rd] made by Yankees under Colonel Streight, by which the raiders almost reached Rome, Georgia, before their capture by General Nathan Bedford Forrest, a resolution was offered by Councilman Williams, and adopted, asking the Mayor to issue a proclamation requesting all citizens to organize into companies and equip themselves to protect the City from raids. At the same meeting the thanks of the City were voted to General Forrest for capturing the raiders.

May 15—Tallulah Fire Company No. 3 offer to serve as cavalry, for protection of the City, and petition Council for assistance in their equipment.

May 23—A resolution was adopted expressing pleasure and pride at the tender of Tallulah Fire Company to serve as a cavalry company, and requesting the Mayor to call on citizens to furnish horses, reporting them to Dr. James A. Taylor.

May 27—Mayor's proclamation was issued calling on all citizen to enroll themselves into organized companies for home protection.

July 17—Mayor Calhoun appointed a Committee consisting of himself and Councilmen James E. Williams, Augustine C. Wyly and Stephen B. Oatman, to wait upon General Nathan B. Forrest during his visit to the city. During the visit the General was presented with a magnificent charger, completely caparisoned, by a citizen's popular subscription.

July 31—The City Police force organized themselves into a military company and tendered their services to the City.

Aug. 21—Use of the City Hall granted to Walthall's Mississippi Brigade to give a concert.

Aug. 28—The use of the upper room of Police quarters was given to the Vigilance Committee for holding meetings.

Sept. —The Roswell Manufacturing Company donated $5000 to the City for relief of sick and wounded soldiers, and $500 to Mrs. Isaac Winship, President of Ladies' Relief Association for the same purpose.

Nov. 6—The Fire Department gave a ball for the benefit of soldiers' families.[10]

The smallpox situation in early 1863 had become so serious, that the establishment of a hospital, in a remote section, for sufferers from the disease, was deemed mandatory. Accordingly, in January, the military authorities of the Post of Atlanta seized 155 acres belonging to William Markham in Land Lots 22 and 23 of the 14th District, between what is now Grant Park and Ormewood Park. The property was cleared and under cultivation at the time, and contained a dwelling house, barn, Negro houses, etc. It was put to use as a smallpox hospital under the pressing necessity to prevent the spread of this highly contageous affliction. Mr. Markham was not wholly in accord with the project, and two or three months later, after the operation of the hospital had been turned over to the Inferior Court of Fulton County, he brought suit against the Court to recover use of the property and to enjoin the servants and agents of the hospital from cutting timber from the place, consuming the lightwood, burning the rails, palings and boards on the premises, etc. Mr. Markham secured an injunction to prevent further damage to the property, but the smallpox hospital was continued thereupon until the need for it had passed.[11]

On April 10, 1863, President Davis issued a proclamation urging the Confederacy to plant crops of corn, beans, peas and other foods instead of cotton and tobacco.

The Fulton County grand jury for the second week of the April, 1863 term took due note of the proclamation, in addition to other topics.

". . . As there are but few cotton planters in Fulton County, we deem it unnecessary to say much about planting cotton, but those few we would respectfully but earnestly recommend to plant not more than one acre to the field hand, but give their attention to the production of provisions.

"The total number of children which attended school in 1862 was 1513. Of these, the tuition of 721 was paid out of the Public School 1862 fund, at an average cost per scholar of $6.92, including all expenses, or $6.54 per scholar to the teacher. This develops the unpleasant truth that less than one half of the children between the ages of 8 and 18 attend school at all.

"With few exceptions, we regret to report the Roads in the County in their usual bad condition.

"The thanks of this jury are due and are hereby tendered to his Honor Judge Bull and Solicitor N. J. Hammond for their uniform courtesy, whilst they are entitled to the praise of the County for their industry and diligence, whereby we are hereby able to report a jail empty."

JESSE M. COOK, Foreman.[12]

High tide at Gettysburg, July 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, was followed on the 4th by the surrender, after a long seige, of Vicksburg by General Pemberton to General Grant and Admiral Porter. Ebb tide had begun for Confederate arms.

Down in Atlanta, under date of July 11th, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary:

> "We have had bad news this week from Vicksburg, that stronghold having been compelled to capitulate to the enemy on the 4th inst., the brave garrison being worn out and nearly starving, they say. A severe fight has also taken place at Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, the first accounts of which represented our forces as victorious, and 40,000 prisoners taken. But further accounts seem to modify the first until I am quite uncertain whether we have gained any advantage at all. . . . Vicksburg has been dearly bought by the Yankees. Millions of money and thousands of lives have been the price they have paid for it. I was greatly in hopes that we should be able to disappoint their expectation of getting it at all."

The fall of Vicksburg caused considerable concern in Atlanta. The *Intelligencer* of July 11th pointed out that loss of the river city "would enable Grant to cooperate with Rosecrans in the latter's design of invading Georgia, not with parties of raiders, but with a powerful army. To defend his present position General Bragg would do all that man could do, and if Georgia would only wake up to her own defense, and give that aid to General Bragg which circumstances imperatively demanded, she would be successfully defended. It was said that even at that time 5000 good troops were near Atlanta. The proper authorities should realize that if Atlanta should fall, the backbone of the Confederacy would be, for a time at least, broken."

"For ourselves," continued the *Intelligencer,* "we would rather be a dog and bay the moon than live to see our proud old commonwealth overthrown by our Abolition foes."

On July 21st, John M. C. Reed, Colonel commanding Fulton County Militia, issued an order commanding all white men between the ages of 18 and 45, and residents of Fulton County, to appear at the city hall parade ground on August 4th by eleven o'clock A. M., so that the requisition by the State of 500 men could be filled. Colonel Reed closed his order by saying that absentees would stand first chance for the draft.[13]

Two days later, on July 23rd, Mayor Calhoun issued the following proclamation:

"In view of the more than probability of an early raid on this city, or the vicinity, I feel constrained for the third time, in the most earnest and solemn manner, to call on each of our people to be prepared to defend their homes and property. I do now request every citizen able to bear arms, without any excuse or equivocation whatever, to enroll their names upon some company list without another day's delay, and request the captains of companies already organized and of those that may be organized hereafter, without delay to report their companies with the number of privates in them to Colonel [Marcus J.] Wright, commander of the troops for the defense of Atlanta, and to have the most perfect understanding with him in regard to arms, ammunition, and everything pertaining to the defense of the city."

JAMES M. CALHOUN, Mayor.[14]

The great rush of enthusiastic volunteering that characterized the early progress of the war had subsided to a trickle by '63, and many who did volunteer took their duties something less than seriously.

A notice appeared in the local press under date of September 3, 1863, captioned, "Attention Company," which stated that the members of Captain Ezzard's company, the Silver Grays, had been notified again and again to meet at the city hall grounds, on Friday evening of each week for drill, and yet up to that time not over 28 or 30 had met at any one time. Some of the absentees were residents of the city, possessing wealth and influence, but the majority of them resided in the country, and might think they were out of harm's way. But why did these men join the company? Was it to induce others to join and so swell the number that they might creep out, or had they concluded that the odor of saltpetre and sulphur was a villianous one?[15]

Even so, local companies continued to be organized. The Independent State Road Guards were formed on August 3, 1863, with William A. Fuller as captain. The members were employees of the Western and Atlantic Railroad. On September 28th employees of the Georgia Railroad formed a similar organization called the Georgia Railroad Guards. James H. Porter was elected captain. The Ordnance Guards, a company composed of 115 youths under the age of 18 was organized September 6th, with headquarters at the race track.[16]

George W. Lee, who had been provost marshal at Atlanta, up to September 8, 1863, was on that day transferred to the Conscript Bureau. He thereupon issued general orders, No. 1, in which he outlined his new duties as being to arrest deserters, suppress insurrectionary movements, and to preserve order and tranquility throughout the State.[17]

The tranquility of the State was soon to be rudely interrupted, for large scale war reached Georgia during the same month.

Bragg's position in Chattanooga had become untenable, and, on September 7th he evacuated the city, retiring to a position between Ringgold and Graysville on the W. & A. R. R., and LaFayette, in Walker County, west of the railroad.

Thereupon the armies of Rosecrans and Bragg began to maneuver for position, the former being resolved to hold the latter off until he could secure a position essential to success. Bragg, on the contrary, was determined to force an engagement with the idea of crushing Rosecrans' army in a pitched battle.[18]

The Confederate leader came near to accomplishing his objective a few days later in the bloody battle of Chickamauga on September 19th and 20th. But for the brave stand of General George H. Thomas on Snodgrass Hill, and Bragg's failure to follow up his advantage, the defeat of Rosecrans' Federal army would have been conclusive. Chickamauga Creek lived up to its Indian name "River of Death," on those two September days in '63.

Atlanta's Mr. Richards recorded in his diary, under date of September 26th:

> "Hundreds of wounded soldiers have been brought to our city this week, for a severe battle has been fought since last Friday and during several succeeding days, between our forces under Gen. Bragg and those of the Federals under Rosecrans. We were completely victorious they say, though the loss of men was very great on both sides. Rosecrans was driven back to Chattanooga, where he has entrenched himself, it is thought. We took some eight or ten thousand prisoners, 36 cannon and a large quantity of small arms. The battle is called after the stream near which it was fought—"Chickamauga" or "Stream of Death." Alas! every victory, as well as every defeat, brings sorrow and distress to many hearts."

As Mr. Richards noted, the aftermath of Chickamauga brought hundreds of wounded soldiers to the city. It also resulted in the arrival of the first uniformed Federal prisoners in Atlanta. The initial batch of 163 arrived on September 22nd. A considerably larger number were brought in on the 26th.[19] The war was getting close to home.

On September 30th an executive aid committee was organized, consisting of John W. Duncan, Judge William Ezzard, Sion B. Robson and Rev. Mr. Parks, to consult with Dr. Joseph P. Logan as to the advisability of fitting up hospitals at Covington, Oxford and Madison. Another committee composed of Judge Ezzard, James E. Williams and Colonel E. P. Watkins, was appointed to wait upon the mayor, and ask him to issue a proclamation calling upon the business men of the city to close their stores at 4 P.M., and give their attention to the wounded arriving on the trains. A request was also made upon the citizens to send their carriages and servants to the trains by night as well as by day, to assist in removing the wounded to the various hospitals.[20]

The tempo of local preparedness was stepped up on September 29th, when General Howell Cobb was appointed to the command of the State troops, with headquarters in Atlanta. The same day he issued an order to all companies and battalions not yet formed into regiments, to form themselves into regiments by the 1st of November, so as to be ready when called upon to enter into active service.[21]

The strategic location of Atlanta as a center of transportation within the Confederacy inspired the establishment therein of numerous Confederate army service headquarters and depots.

The Commissary Department headquarters, as previously noted, were in a frame structure at Peachtree, Pryor and Houston streets on the present site of the Candler Building.

The garrison of the post was located in the area between Walton, Forsyth and Cone streets, west of the present site of the old Post Office Building, and ran back to about Cain or Harris streets.[22]

The recruit camp is said to have been at the spot now occupied by Sears Roebuck and Company, on the Todd plantation. However Cox's map of the

Atlanta Campaign places it a short distance west of Decatur on the north side of the Georgia Railroad, on or near the old Kirkpatrick place.[23]

The remount depot, where army horses and mules were kept, was located in the block between Garnett Street and Trinity Avenue (then called East Peters St.) on the west side of Pryor Street.[24]

The commissary supply depots were located on the east side of Whitehall Street in the block between the railroad tracks and Alabama Street, and ran back to what is now Pryor Street, which was then unopened.[25]

The headquarters of the Signal Corps were at first located in the Gate City Hotel, southeast corner Alabama and Pryor streets. After the bombardment of Atlanta started in the summer of 1864, they were moved to what is now the corner of Whitehall and Hood streets.[26]

The railway transport officer had offices on Whitehall Street at, or very near, the railroad crossing.[27]

The Provost-Marshal's office was located on what is now Forsyth, then Wadley Street, just north of Walton Street.[28]

In May, 1863, the *Intelligencer* Steam-Power Press turned out a modest paper bound volume, being *The Code of the City of Atlanta,* Compiled and Arranged by Judge Jethro W. Manning. Some of its sections devoted to the subjects of exhibitions, general passenger depot, and slaves, form interesting vignettes of the time in which they were written and in force.[29]

EXHIBITIONS

"All itinerant stage-actors or show-masters, who shall wish to exhibit within the corporate limits of said city, any performance of comedy, tragedy, farce, any riding, tumbling, slight-of-hand, legerdemain, or tricks of any kind, or exhibition of animals or other kind of shows for pay, shall first apply to the Mayor, or in his absence, three members of Council, for a license, and for which each and every one so applying, shall pay a sum not exceeding fifty dollars for each day's performance, and Clerk's fees; and if any showman, exhibitor or Actor, as aforesaid, shall perform or exhibit without such license, he, she or they shall be arrested and carried by the Marshal or Deputy Marshal beforce the Mayor or three members of Council, and be fined in a sum of not exceeding fifty dollars and costs, for each day's performance, or not exceeding thirty days imprisonment in the Calaboose.

"Nothing in this Ordinance shall prevent Concerts, either vocal or instrumental (other than in negro character), from performing free.

"All organ grinders, singers, and other street music, shall pay five dollars a day . . . or be fined not exceeding fifty dollars, or not exceeding thirty days in the Calaboose."

GENERAL PASSENGER DEPOT

"It shall not be lawful for any person to peddle or offer for sale under the general passenger shed, or on the platform attached to the same, in this city, (except in the saloon connected with said shed or depot) any fruits, watermelons, nuts, cigars, beverages, ice-cream, candies,, pastries, or other articles whatever, except newspapers and books of a moral tendency. Offenders subject to fifty dollar fine or forty-eight hours in the Calaboose for each offense.

"It shall not be lawful for any person to appear under or about said passenger shed, to drum for or solicit, in a rude boisterous, disorderly manner, patronage for any Hotel, Boarding or Eating House, on the arrival of any of the trains in this City. Any white person violating this Ordinance, shall, upon conviction, be fined in a sum not exceeding twenty dollars for each offience; if a person of color, he or she shall receive not exceeding thirty-nine lashes.

"The Marshal and Police during their several hours of duty, shall be vigilant in the discovery and arrest of all persons who may offend against this Ordinance, in any particular, and bring him, her or them to answer for the same "[30]

SLAVES AND FREE PERSONS OF COLOR

"SEC. 286. No person shall hire, lend or deliver any horse or horses, or any gig, sulkey, buggy, or carriage of any kind to any slave or free person of color, without a written order from the owner, employer, or agent of such slave or free person of color, and any person convicted of a violation of this section of this Ordinance shall pay a fine of not exceeding fifty dollars and costs.

"SEC. 288. No slave or free person of color shall sell or hawk any beer, cake, fruit or confectionery, in any of the streets or alleys of this city; and any violator, shall on conviction, pay a fine of not exceeding five dollars and costs, or be punished by whipping, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes.

"SEC. 292. No man slave or person of color shall walk with cane, club or stick (unless blind or infirm), nor smoke a pipe or cigar in any street, lane, alley, or on the square used by the State; and, upon conviction of a violation, of any part of this section, such slave or person of color shall receive not exceeding thirty-nine lashes."[31]

That President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, had little or no effect upon the slave traffic in the South until the war ended, is indicated by advertisements running every day in the local press. Two examples follow:

SLAVE YARD

By

ROBERT M. CLARKE

On the west side of Whitehall Street, who has a commodious, well arranged Yard, with every convenience for the health and comfort of slaves. Constantly kept on hand for sale a large number of

MECHANICS,
COACHMEN,
COOKS,
HOUSE SERVANTS
AND FIELD HANDS

BUYS AND SELLS ON COMMISSION

By close personal attention to business he hopes to receive a liberal patronage.[32]

NEGROES!

A CHOICE LOT OF STRICTLY PRIME
YOUNG WOMEN, BOYS and Fellows,
FOR SALE BY
CRAWFORD, FRAZER & CO.[33]

The war year of 1863 brought to a close, from natural causes including old age, the lives of a number of patriarchs born in the Revolutionary era, whose stout hearts and strong arms helped to clear the virgin forest from what is now Fulton County.

Meredith Collier, who was born in North Carolina in 1782, died at his domain on Peachtree Creek, February 28th. He had settled on that stream, then in De Kalb County, in 1823. His life was devoted primarily to agriculture, but he had also served as State senator from De Kalb, before Fulton was created and had functioned as magistrate of his district for many years. He and his wife, neé Elizabeth Gray, became the parents of fifteen children. In order of birth, they were: Edwin G.; Nancy, Mrs. Green Hesterly; Merrell (named for his uncle); Sarah, married first, Miles Patey, second Judge John N. Bellinger; George Washington; John; Aaron; Francis M.; Emily, Mrs. Mitchell Evins; James M.; Wesley G.; Elizabeth, Mrs. Haney Liddell; Andrew J.; Mary Ann, Mrs. Silas H. Donaldson, and Meredith, Jr. Their descendants include many excellent present day citizens of the Atlanta area. Meredith Collier was originally buried on his home place in Collier Woods, now called Sherwood Forest. On July 2, 1913, the old pioneer, together with some other members of his family were removed from the family cemetery to West View.[34]

Rev. James Mangum was, like Meredith Collier, born in North Carolina, in 1782. He came to De Kalb in 1824 or 1825, preceding his younger brother William by a few years, and settled some eight miles south of the future site of Atlanta in Land Lot 125 of the 14th District, now Fulton County. He was a tall man of commanding personality and an excellent farmer, known as the producer of the celebrated "Mangum apple." He was a founder and original trustee of Mount Zion Methodist Church on what is now Stewart Avenue, and at his death on March 3, 1863, was laid to rest in the church cemetery. Among his children were Nathaniel Mangum, noted ante-bellum Atlanta lawyer, and Robert E. Mangum, Fulton County's second ordinary.[35]

In the southwest part of Fulton four pioneers fell by the wayside. Noah Hornsby, born in 1776, died May 25th. The death of Thomas Kennedy has already been noted. John B. Holbrook, a resident since 1823, born in 1786, died of cancer on March 5th. He sired a well known family, including the late John M. Holbrook, Atlanta clothing merchant. Rev. John M. Smith, brother-in-law of John B. Holbrook, was born in Elbert County, Georgia, in 1789, and soon after his arrival in De Kalb, later Fulton County, founded the Mount Gilead Methodist Church near his home. "Uncle John M." as he was familiarly called, was over six feet tall, had a large frame and dark skin. He wore long thick black hair, parted straight over his forehead, which together with piercing black eyes and high cheek bones, gave an Indian cast to his features. His library was the Bible, and throughout a long life he squared his actions by his understanding of the Great Book. He reared four daughters and four sons, all of the latter becoming Methodist preachers. This good citizen died March 1, 1863, and is buried in Mount Gilead Chuchyard, as is his neighbor and kinsman John B. Holbrook.[36]

Among the early citizens of Atlanta who died in '63 were John Kile, Sr., in May; William J. "Uncle Billy" Mann, the Scotch merchant, also in May, and Arthur G. Ware, printer, publisher and railroad agent, in February. All are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[37]

War casualties added to the toll. Captain Alfred J. H. Poole, of De Kalb County, a son-in-law of Charles Lively, one of the earliest settlers of Browning's District in that county, met an accidental death in Atlanta during early January. A number of Enfield Rifles, captured at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, were being unboxed and stored away on Alabama Street. As Captain Poole was assisting, one of the rifles, being loaded, was accidentally discharged. The ball passed through the Captain's body from back to breast, inflicting a mortal wound. He died at the residence of Oliver H. Jones the following day and was buried in the Lively family cemetery on what is now Briarcliff Road in De Kalb County.[38]

The 42nd Georgia Regiment suffered relatively heavy casualties in the Battle of Chickasaw Bayou during the Vicksburg Campaign on December 29, 1862. Among them was Lieutenant James H. Young of Company D. He was a good citizen of that part of the Panthersville District now included in the East Atlanta District of De Kalb County, and lies buried in the Cool Spring, sometimes called Marvin, Cemetery off Boulder Crest Drive near his old home. His comparatively modest estate was inventoried and appraised on June 3, 1863, and being more or less typical of such documents during the 1860's, is herewith quoted. Some of the valuations, particularly of foodstuffs, indicate wartime inflation.

Land, 240 acres, more or less, parts of Lots Nos. 109 & 110 (15th District)	$4,000.00
Negro girl Mary, 17 years of age	1,400.00
1 mare mule	250.00
1 cow and calf	100.00
1 watch	35.00
1 sword and belt	25.00
Plough stocks, gear and plough hoes	15.00
1 Bureau and glass	25.00
3 beds and furniture	200.00
2 pine tables and 8 chairs	15.00
1 hand saw, drawing knife and auger	5.00
1 box of irons and grindstone	3.00
6 barrels, boxes and tub	10.00
2 jars lard and jugs	27.00
1 lot bacon	100.00
Pots and ovens	20.00
1 saddle and shot gun	25.00
1 lot of corn in the shuck, and fodder	200.00
1 buggy and harness	150.00
15 head stock hogs	80.00
	$6,485.00

William T. Cobb
Augustus L. Pitts } Appraisers.[39]
George Key

Henry Bibb Bell, a member of the 37th Georgia Regiment died in camp near Dalton, Georgia, on December 6, 1863, in his 23rd year. He was the youngest son of James Bell, the old Decatur Street merchant, and a brother of Marcus A. Bell, builder of the Calico House. Young Bell had attended one course of lectures at the Atlanta Medical College and was preparing to take lectures for graduation, when he volunteered for army service. For two years prior to his death, of congestion of the brain, he had served as a hospital steward in Bragg's Army.[40] The body was brought back to Atlanta for interment at Oakland by brother Marcus, himself worn and emaciated by a long spell of typhoid contracted in camp on the war front in Tennessee.[41]

By this time Calico House had become a beehive of war activity. The four large basement rooms and the wide hallway between them were converted into workrooms and storage apartments for making and storing supplies for the army. The hallway was constantly filled with large board boxes being packed with articles of clothing, foodstuffs, and often caps, canteens, small ammunition and other military supplies. The rooms were occupied every day by groups of women assisting in the work of packing the boxes, knitting, sewing, and "pulling lint," to be sent to the medical department for use of the surgeons in the field and field hospitals. The long "ell" room of the house had been converted into a temporary hospital to which wounded and maimed Confederate soldiers were conveyed from incoming trains for treatment. Calico House did valiant service and survived the war with flying colors.[42]

As the war wore on desertions from both the Confederate and Federal armies became quite common, and posed disciplinary problems for the authorities on both sides. That the old army custom of being AWOL was not confined to enlisted men is indicated by the following ad in the *Daily Intelligencer* of February 13, 1863:

LOOK OUT FOR HIM!

MAJOR W. J. B. ELLIOTT of the Confederate Army, having rendered himself amenable to the army laws and regulations is hereby advertised in order to secure his arrest. He has dark hair, wears a wig; is very bald without the wig; about 6 feet high, rather slender, has dark whiskers, very quick spoken, and very talkative. Had on when seen last, dark pants and a long dark dress coat; hazel eyes; dark complexion. If arrested he should be sent to these headquarters.

G. W. LEE,
Com. Post and Pro. Marshal.

Certain aspects of every-day life in Atlanta during 1863 are set down with an interesting degree of forthrightness by S. P. Richards in his ever handy diary, together with pithy comment here and there. The following passages are quoted verbatim, with subject headings by the present writer.

ON THE WAR

Sunday, Jan. 25.—It is warm and Spring-like today—the winter is fast passing away and as yet our foes have not done any of the tremendous things that they were going to do, and unless they do them quickly I hope their opportunity will have passed away forever. I have strong hopes that before the Spring ends this dreadful war will have virtually ended, and the *white* men be again free and not the niggers.

ON HIGH PRICES

Monday, Feb. 23.—I bought a pound of coffee today at 3.50 tho' it sells at $4.00.

Saturday, Mar. 7.—I have been busy enough in the store four days—trade very good. Lead pencils sell at 1.50 apiece—violin strings 1.25—playing cards of ordinary quality 5.00 per pack. But books in general we only get double the old price, which is not enough as money is.

Saturday, Mar. 21.—Business continues good and money comes in so fast that we hardly know how to dispose of it to advantage, though to be sure, it takes a large part of it to buy food and clothing in these days of exhorbitant prices. Flour is now $75 per barrel and rice 25¢ per lb. though I was lucky enough today to buy a sack of rice-flour for $20. We have lived on rice and corn for several weeks, wheat flour being too dear. I like a good rice-flour bread made with buttermilk and soda quite as well as flour bread, at least for awhile. But buttermilk is one dollar per gallon and rising, and soda has gone up from ten cents per pound to four dollars!

ON SLAVES

Saturday, May 2.—We bought Ellen just at the right time; she would sell now readily for $2000, being a very "likely nigger"—say 14 years old. I must make out descriptive lists of my darkies and record in my journal for future reference. It is said, and I think with truth, that when we come to a successful end to this war that negroes will command very high prices, as there will be so much demand for labor to raise cotton, and a great many will have been taken away by the Yankees.

Sunday, Dec. 13.—I forgot to say that yesterday I had to whip our woman Caroline for insubordination and impudence to her mistress. I am disgusted with negroes and feel inclined to sell what I have. I wish they were all back in Africa, or Yankee Land. To think too that this cruel war should be waged for them!

ON DEATH OF STONEWALL JACKSON

Tuesday, May 12.—The sad tidings has come that Gen. T. J. Jackson, the Christian hero, has been called to lay aside forever the weapons of earthly warfare, both temporal and spiritual, and go up higher. This is gain indeed to him but a sad loss to us and to the country in her time of need. "No sound shall awake him to glory again."

ON THE 4TH OF JULY

Saturday, July 4.—The "Glorious Fourth" passed off quietly enough, without a gun or a cracker as far as I could hear. Although, as some of our people argue, we have as much right to this holiday, or more, than the Yankees, our people seem to take but little interest in it since the Secession of the South, being too much engaged in again achieving their independence of a tyranny more hateful far than that under which the Colonies lived before the Old Revolution.

ON A TRIP TO STONE MOUNTAIN

Tuesday, July 21.—At seven o'clock this morning, Harriet, Martha, Sallie, Dora, Jabez and I, with Ellen to carry our dinner, started off to spend the day at the Stone Mountain. A ride of 15 miles in the cars took us to "Stone Mt." village, within a short walk of the foot of the big rock itself. We reached the top of the rock about nine o'clock very comfortably, as the day, though warm, was cloudy. The refreshment saloon half way up is now deserted and in ruins, also the Tower on the tip is nothing but a pile of unsightly stones and lumber, "wrecks of the past." We sat down and took a lunch at 11 o'clock and then explored the mountain until one when we ate dinner, the only drawback to the enjoyment of it being the want of water. Some apples and peaches, however, helped out in that respect until three o'clock by which time we had descended and slacked our thirst with nice cool water at the hotel below. It took just two pailfuls to satisfy us! Going back the cars were full and Jabe and I had to stand, some clever men getting up to give the ladies seats.

ON SEIZURE OF HORSES

Saturday, Aug. 15.—There has been considerable excitement in our city this week upon the horse question, the military powers having pressed nearly all the valuable horses that are in the place in order to recruit the Cavalry branch of the Army in Tennessee. Many of our citizens have been deprived of carriage horses that they had refused three or four thousand dollars for, and been obliged to take only a fourth part of that amount for them. I think it is a high handed and dishonest proceeding, unworthy such a government as ours professes to be. Having no horses to lose myself, my opinion is a distinterested one. If the emergency requires that horses should be taken by force the owner ought at any rate to receive just compensation.

ON WAR TAX

Saturday, Aug. 29.—Today I paid the first installment of the War Tax, being 2½% on gross sales from April 24 to July 1, 1863. The tax was only $500 for a little over 2 months![43]

Saturday, Oct. 31.—I paid our war tax today for the quarter ending Sep. 30—$675, being 2½% on gross sales of $27,000.

ON RUMORS OF RAIDS AND PEMBERTON'S VISIT

Saturday, Sept. 5.—Nothing of much interest has occurred this week. There are rumors of Yankee raids upon Atlanta and part of our citizens comprising the "Fire Battalion" have been called into camp at the City Hall. Col. Lee wants our Company to join this battalion, but we don't incline to do so, much. Lieut. Gen. Pemberton, who commanded at Vicksburg when it was surrendered, is now the guest of Bro. [Sidney] Root, awaiting the decision of a court of Inquiry in regard to that matter. Bro. Root thinks his case will be sustained by the court. By surrendering as he did on the fourth of July (which I wondered at his doing), he obtained terms that he could not have had if they had held out several days longer which they could have done. The Yankees very much wished to get in on the "glorious fourth," and so granted more favorable terms to accomplish that end.

ON VISIT OF PRES. DAVIS

Thursday, Oct. 29.—We had a call from President Davis tonight[44] and I had a short conversation with him, that is, he asked me if Mrs. McLean was in and I replied that she was, and forthwith took him up to her room with the aide who came with him, and they stayed an hour up there. Mrs. McLean has an extensive Military acquaintance; the President—Gen's Polk, Hindman, Buckner and others are constant friends and visitors.

ON CHRISTMAS

Friday, Dec. 25.—The weather is bright and cold, fine for Christmas. I went to the store as usual, but Henry left at ten o'clock to 'take Christmas' at his dad-in-laws. I was kept quite busy until dinner time and sold over $700 worth. Tonight Mrs. McLean sent us some eggnogg and a taste of pickled oysters.

ON THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR

Thursday, Dec. 31.—It has been a most doleful day, cold and wet, fit ending to a year of gloom and death. In less than an hour 1863 will be among the past. Mary and I have set the fire nearly out, Sallie having taken to bed as usual several hours ago. Mary is knitting, finishing off the toe of the old year!

The Fulton County grand jury for the October Adjourned term, 1863, did not complete its work until January 23, 1864, at which time it filed its presentments. The age-old problems of an equitable distribution of relief money, and bread vs. whiskey for the poor occupied the chief attention of the jurors.

"As jurors, we believe at no former period has there been such an amount of criminal business presented for the consideration of this body, the appearance of which is no doubt owing to the several adjournments of our court by our former Judge, O. A. Bull.

"For the want of time the public records of the County have not been examined, except the account pertaining to the relief fund for soldiers' families. The amount received for this purpose up to 31st Decr., 1863 was, up to same date . . . $106,876.88

Expenditure	91,209.30
Balance on hand	$15,667.58

Complaints having been laid before this body that at a former period the names of some persons claiming and receiving assistance had been stricken from the list and further aid refused them, we respectfully ask the Judges of the Inferior Court to revise the list of those claiming benefits. . . .

"The Grand Jurors know how difficult it is to distribute public money with entire satisfaction to those who claim its benefits, and yet think some may now claim assistance on account of cold weather and high prices of provisions, which would not six months ago have been entitled to participate. This much we recommend, more we cannot do.

"This claim of bread for the poor seems never ending, and inclines us to leave the subject in dispute. But duty compels us to ask why so many stills are running in our County, destroying day by day, the bread for which such a cry is made. As jurors called to look after the interests of the County, we protest in the name of Humanity that this use of Grane (*sic*) should stop. That the poor need bread but not require whiskey.

"In conclusion, and to the people of Fulton County let us say that Judge [Benj. H.] Bigham comes to us at a time when we need him, and may his administration be a terror to evil doers, and a praise to those that do well. In return for courtesies received of both his Honor Judge Bigham and our Solicitor, N. J. Hammond, we tender our thainks for the present. We recommend that the above presentments be published in the *Atlanta Intelligencer* and *Southern Confederacy*."[45]

Jesse M. Cook, Foreman

James R. D. Ozburn
Andrew J. Collier
Henry Bankston
David Demorest
George W. Collier
Thomas Moore
William Gilbert
Boswell Y. Evans
Silas H. Donaldson

Alexander Cochran
Edward W. Munday
Thomas Kile
John J. Ford
James A. Middleton
Joel D. Simms
William McNaught
Joseph A. Reeves

NOTES—CHAPTER 41

[1] Battle of Murfreesboro, or Stone's River. While the Confederates under Bragg won the first day's battle, they were unable to hold the ground gained, and, on Jan. 5th, Rosecrans occupied Murfreesboro, claiming victory. Total losses, both sides about 24,000 men.

[2] The Emancipation Proclamation was issued Jan. 1, 1863.

[3] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 261.

[4] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, pp. 496-497; *ibid.,* 1925, pp. 322, 337; "Garrett's Necrology."

[5] *Annual Reports, Atlanta,* 1899, p. 581.

[6] Reed, *Atlanta,* 246.

[7] *Southern Confederacy,* Feb. 3, 1863; *Atlanta Constitution,* July 22, 1894.

[8] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1863, Book D.

[9] "Garrett's Necrology."

[10] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 84-88.

[11] Mitchell, "Atlanta, Industrial Heart, Confederacy," *loc. cit.* 25; 33 *Ga. Reports,* 508, Markham *vs.* Howell, *et al.*

[12] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1863, Book D.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 124-125.

[14] *Ibid.,* 125.

[15] *Ibid.,* 126.

[16] *Ibid.* The racetrack was at the southwest end of Chapel, then called Racetrack Street.

[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 126.

[18] *Ibid.,* 147.

[19] *Ibid.,* 154.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] Mitchell, "Atlanta, Industrial Heart, Confederacy," *loc. cit.,* 25-27.

[23] *Ibid.* Near the present Murray Hill Avenue.

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.*
[29] Jethro W. Manning, comp., *The Code of the City of Atlanta* (Atlanta, 1863), 40.
[30] *Ibid.*, 43.
[31] *Ibid.*, 72-73.
[32] *Daily Intelligencer,* June 10, 1863.
[33] *Ibid.*, Feb. 13, 1863.
[34] "Garrett's Necrology."
[35] *Ibid.*
[36] *Ibid.; Southern Confederacy,* Apr. 11, 1863.
[37] "Garrett's Necrology."
[38] *Ibid.; Southern Confederacy,* Jan. 9, 1863.
[39] Inventory and Sales Records, De Kalb County.
[40] "Garrett's Necrology."
[41] Piromis H. Bell, "The Calico House," *loc. cit.*, 30.
[42] *Ibid.*

[43] The Confederate Internal Revenue Act of Apr. 24, 1863, made provision for taxes, and imposed a tax of one-tenth in kind on agricultural products.

[44] Davis was passing through Atlanta enroute to Richmond from Chattanooga, where he had visited Bragg's army.

[45] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1863, Book D.

CHAPTER 42

1864

IT WOULD have been difficult indeed to have found two more dissimilar American cities than the Atlanta of January 1, 1864, and the Atlanta of January 1, 1865. On the first day of the former year the city was throbbing with all the manifold activities of an industrial center in a wartime economy. Its population, much of it temporary or transient, had increased nearly fifty per cent since 1860. With all its hustle and bustle, the city never had resembled, and certainly did not, at the beginning of '64, resemble any other ante-bellum Southern community. In a twelvemonth all was swept away. The teeming population was scattered to the four winds. The industrial and business sections of the city lay in fire blackened ruins. Those lusty seeds from which the city grew, its railroads, had been subjected to the most thorough plan of destruction ever visited upon a transportation system. On January 1, 1865, Atlanta appeared almost as dead as Pompeii. But the city was not destined to lie buried for long under its ashes. Sherman's army did not possess the potency for destruction of a Vesuvius. Most of Atlanta's permanent population returned, and they together with newly acquired post-bellum citizens created a new city upon the ashes of the old. But that is another story.

Atlanta's crucial war year opened with some of the coldest weather yet experienced in the city. S. P. Richards recorded on January 2nd that the thermometer stood at eight degrees and that "it was so cold that we could hardly keep comfortable in bed." Further, "that it had been too cold to do anything but sit over the fire." The following day, being Sunday, he wrote, "we nearly froze at church [Second Baptist], the fires being a failure." Later in the year fires were to become a triumphant success insofar as destruction was concerned, heat then being an incidental factor.

Two years having elapsed since elections for county officers in Fulton and De Kalb had occurred, some new faces appeared in both court houses early in 1864. In De Kalb, Oliver Winningham of Stone Mountain succeeded James O. Powell as sheriff; John M. Hawkins, previously clerk of the Superior Court, assumed also the duties of clerk of the Inferior Court, succeeding Thomas R. Hoyle; W. W. Davis, since 1862 both tax receiver and collector, relinquished the former office to W. J. Williams, and continued in the latter. John B. Wommack, of Shallowford District, replaced William Wilson as coroner.[1]

In Fulton County, on February 16th, Aaron G. Grier succeeded S. B. Love as sheriff; John H. Lovejoy succeeded G. M. Walker as clerk of the Inferior Court. W. I. Hudson relinquished the office of tax receiver to James I. Miller, but retained the duties of tax collector. T. E. Whitaker became surveyor, vice T. A. Kennedy.[2] Ordinary Robert E. Mangum died in office in April, as had his predecessor J. H. Mead two years before. In a special election held on May 21, 1864, Daniel Pittman was elected to the office over a plethora of candidates, among whom were M. W. Rasbury, Colonel Alexander M. Wallace, Isaac Bartlett, Henry C. Holcomb, and Benjamin F. Edwards.[3]

The office of coroner having been vacant since February 16th, it was filled at the same special election, William B. Chapman being the successful candidate over a large field. Chapman's appeal to the voters, as it appeared in the local press, read as follows:

"Old Dad" for Coroner

MR. EDITOR:—Please announce the name of W. B. CHAPMAN as a suitable candidate for Coroner. Mr. Chapman is one of the oldest citizens of this place, and withal an exempt from military duty, and therefore entitled to receive the unanimous support of the public.

MANY VOTERS.[4]

In December, 1863, Mayor James M. Calhoun was elected to a third consecutive term, becoming the first chief executive of the city to attain this distinction. Councilmen elected at the same time were:

First Ward—Levi C. Wells and Dr. James A. Taylor.
Second Ward—Edward E. Rawson and William Watkins.
Third Ward—Robert Crawford and John T. Jones.
Fourth Ward—Zachariah A. Rice and James E. Gullatt.
Fifth Ward—Perino Brown and Noah R. Fowler.

All of these men served through the year except Dr. Taylor, who resigned March 4th. Dr. Thomas S. Powell was sworn in to fill the vacancy on March 18th.[5]

The first order of business for the 1864 Council was to fix the salaries of the various ministerial officers, after which the officers themselves were elected. Following is the result: Clerk, Henry C. Holcomb, $4,000 and the perquisites of his office; treasurer, John H. Mecaslin, $1,000; tax receiver and collector, Columbus M. Payne, one and one-half percent on taxes received and one and one-half on those collected; marshal, Oliver H. Jones, $3,500 and perquisites; deputy marshal, Willis P. Lanier, $2,500 and perquisites; city attorney, N. J. Hammond, $1,000; clerk of market, Theophilus Harris, $1,200; first lieutenant of police, George Stewart, $2,000; second lieutenant of police, D. C. Venable, $2,000; city physician, J. G. Westmoreland, $2,000; surveyor, H. L. Currier, ten dollars per day for time actually employed; superintendent of streets, John Haslett, $2,000; sexton, G. A. Pilgrim, five dollars for each interment; hall-keeper and messenger, Patrick Fitzgibbon, $100 per month.[6]

John Hunt Morgan was a name revered in the South but regarded with apprehension in the North, for its owner was one of the most daring and destructive of Confederate cavalry leaders and raiders. While fighting and raiding across Indiana and Ohio in 1863, the General and a number of his men were captured and imprisoned in the Ohio State Penitentiary at Columbus. In November, '63, Morgan escaped by digging under a wall and returned South via Cincinnati.

Not long afterward the city authorities of Atlanta learned that he intended to become the guest of the town. Accordingly, Mayor Calhoun on January 19, 1864, appointed a committee to meet the colorful leader. It was composed of the mayor, councilmen Perino Brown, Robert Crawford, James E. Gullatt, Noah R. Fowler and Levi C. Wells; and Messrs. William Ezzard, John W. Duncan, Stephen H. Shallcross, Sidney Root and ——— McKinley.[7]

General Morgan's arrival was delayed until Saturday, February 6th, at which time he was tendered a reception at the Trout House. His carriage was drawn through the streets by husky and exuberant Atlantans, all anxious to pay him honor. Barely seven months later, on September 4th, while conducting a raid into Tennessee, he was surrounded in a house near Greenville and shot to death while attempting to escape.

S. P. Richards' diary entry for February 6th took note of the Morgan visit.

"Gen. John H. Morgan, who has lately escaped from the Ohio Penitentiary, was received here this morning publicly by a large concourse of citizens, and we all went to see him and heard him speak. We had our big calf killed tonight as it cost too much to feed her, and beef is so high that we thought it best to make her feed us."

In accordance with a proclamation by President Jefferson Davis, Mayor and Council on June 4th passed resolutions setting aside Friday, June 10th, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer, requesting the citizens to lay aside on that day all secular business, and devote it to prayer "to Almighty God, to continue to be the strength to us in our weakness, and to bless him and crown our armies with success."[8]

As usual, Mr. Richards noted the occasion in his diary.

"Friday, June 10. Today was appointed by our Mayor as a day of fasting and prayer, especially for the safety of our city from invasion by the enemy. We had a pleasant Union Meeting at our Church to pray for our Country and City. A Col. Wilkes addressed us arrayed in his army garb with his pistol in his belt. He spoke quite encouragingly in reference to the military and religious condition of the Army of Tennessee, from which he had just come."

The last entry made on the books of the Council, before the capture of the city by General Sherman, was dated July 18, 1864. From that day to January 6, 1865, the minutes are blank.[9]

On February 10, 1864, occurred an incident which serves to illustrate how precarious life had become for citizens in the country districts contiguous to Atlanta.

Major George W. Lee, attached to the Confederate bureau of conscription, commanded a battalion of 683 men whose duty it was to arrest deserters and stragglers and to enforce the conscription laws. While his forces were stationed at various points throughout the State, Major Lee, with about 100 of his men were in camp two miles from Atlanta at about the present intersection of Peachtree and Eleventh streets. They were all youths, only one or two being over eighteen years of age.

Some gentlemen residing near Buckhead called on Major Lee for assistance to arrest a band of robbers and thieves, supposed to be deserters, committing depredations in that vicinity. In response to this call, the Major, on the afternoon of February 10th, detailed twelve picked men, with two days' rations and fifteen rounds of ammunition, to proceed to the neighborhood of Washington P. Johnston's farm beyond Buckhead,[10] and arrest all such persons complained of. The party was in charge of Lieutenant J. A. Caldwell who was enjoined to be prompt and prudent, and after crossing Peachtree Creek to inquire at every house where pertinent information might be obtained.

The first house north of Peachtree Creek was that of Wesley Gray Collier, a younger brother of Wash and John, and then a man of forty. His home occupied the present site of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick G. Storey, 2510 Peachtree Road. Lieutenant Caldwell and his men arrived at the Collier home about 8 P. M., well after dark, whereupon the following drama was enacted:

Collier, with his family consisting of four children ranging in age from four to fourteen, was sitting by the fire in a front room. A servant girl was spinning upon a wheel in the same room. The moon had gone down and though the stars were shining the night was fairly dark. The house was unlighted save by the glow of the dying fire in the fireplace. The doors were closed and locked and Collier was about retiring to rest, having for that purpose laid aside his hat and removed his shoes.

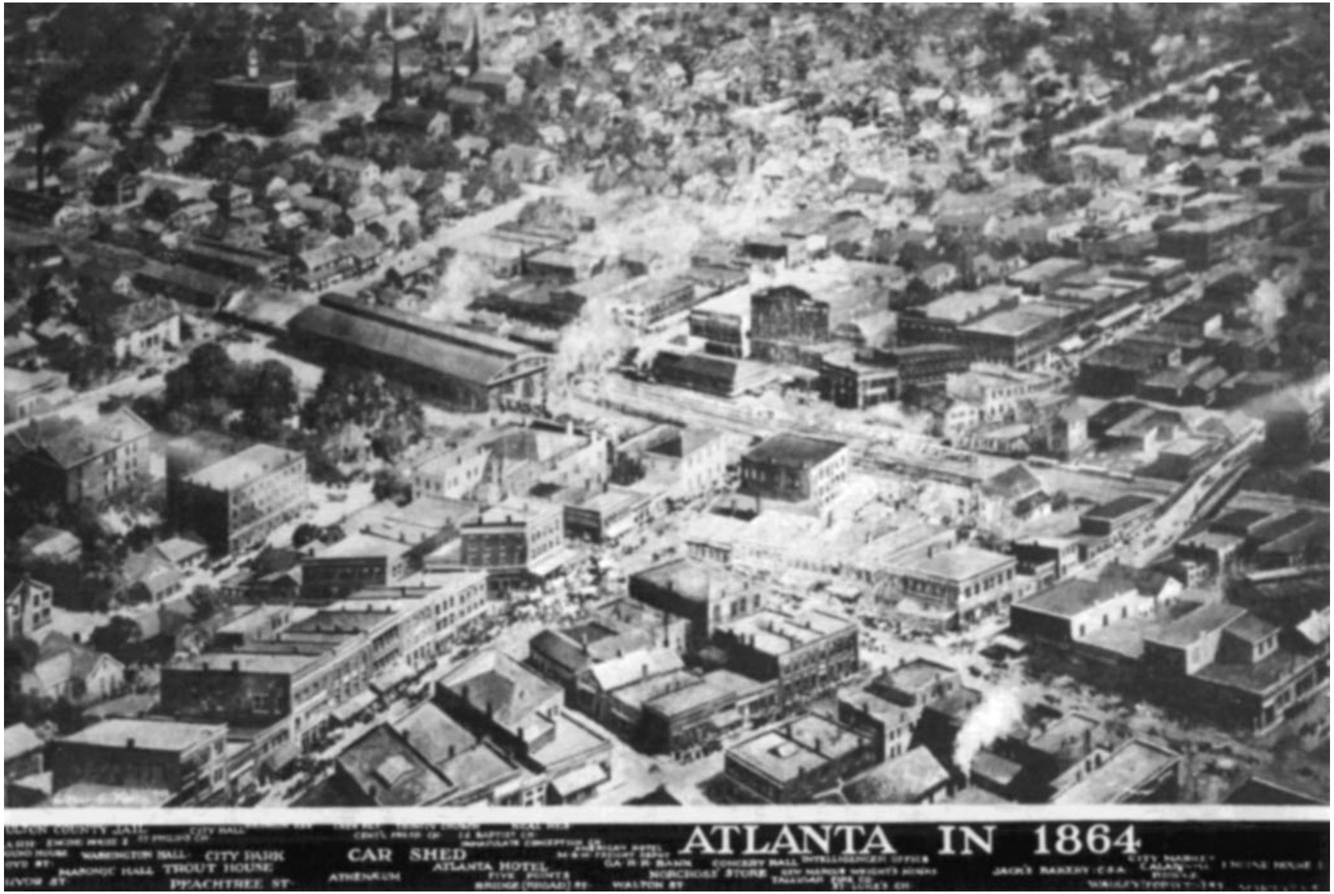
He was suddenly startled by some persons hailing in front of the house and demanding water. To accommodate he ordered a boy to carry some water to them. Several men had now come upon the porch, and hearing knocks on the door Collier demanded, "what do you want?" "To come in," was the answer; and this was followed by the question, "Is your family at home?", to which he answered in the affirmative. The soldiers then exclaimed "raise the windows," and going to a window on the side of the house, commenced pulling at it, saying, "open the door." Collier demurred and told them to go away and leave him alone. The military then declared that they would come in or break out "every damned door and window in the house." Calling for an axe, and exclaiming, "knock the windows out," they passed from the side to the end of the house and knocked all the lower sash and glass out of one window, and nearly all out of another, they being in the room where the Collier family was sitting when first hailed.

Up to this time the Caldwell party had not told Collier, nor did they afterwards tell him, who they were, where they came from, what their business was, whether they were in search of any person or not, or whether they had any warrant or other process.

The children had now been sent off into one of the shed rooms; and Collier himself, armed with a double barreled shotgun and a small repeater, stood near the partition which separated the two main rooms of the building. The gun was loaded with buckshot.

Upon breaking the windows, a voice cried, "come on, boys, we have the damned rascal now," and a man leaped into one of the windows. Collier levelled his gun and fired. Some one asked, "Lieutenant, are you hurt?" The answer was, "Yes, I am hurt." They then said, "fire, God-damn him, fire!" Eight explosions of firearms followed, and about that number of balls and large buckshot were found, upon subsequent inspection, to have entered the building. One or more passed clear through the house; some perforated the beds; one struck just above the children's heads where they were crouching in the backroom; one pierced the partition just behind Collier; one hit the broach on the wheel, knocked off the spindle, hurled it against the side of the room, and drove it into the wall.

Some of the crowd outside now called for fire, saying they would burn the house down. Collier, after instructing his children how to effect their escape, made a strategic withdrawal. He left the house by the back door and ran towards the woods. In going some twelve steps he was shot at four or five times at close range, but luckily the soldiers were poor shots. After gaining the woods, Collier turned and came back in rear of the garden, where he stopped and stood until he heard the crowd leave his premises. They took his buggy with them presumably to carry their wounded comrade, Knight, who subsequently died.


ATLANTA IN 1864
ULTON COUNTY JAIL
CITY HALL
ENGINE HOUSE 2
ST PHILIPS CH
WASHINGTON HALL
CITY PARK
CAR SHED
MASONIC HALL
TROUT HOUSE
PEACHTREE ST
ATHENAEUM
CENT'L PRESB CH
1st BAPTIST CH
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CH
ATLANTA HOTEL
FIVE POINTS
BRIDGE (BROAD) ST
WALTON ST
GA R R BANK
CONCERT HALL
INTELLIGENCER OFFICE
NORCROSS STORE
ST LUKE'S CH
JACK'S BAKERY
CITY MARKET

(*From an original painting by Wilbur G. Kurtz, in collection of Beverly M. DuBose*)

A general view of Atlanta in 1864, prior to its partial destruction in November of that year. Note bridge over railroad tracks at Broad, then called Bridge Street. All other crossings were at grade

When the soldiers had gone, Collier, still not knowing who they were, sent a message to his brother [probably Wash or Andrew J., both relatively close neighbors] requesting him to go to town and gather up a force to meet and arrest his assailants. The brother went to town and communicated with City Marshal Oliver H. Jones. Between ten and eleven that night Jones and two policemen moved out Peachtree Road, and two and a half miles out [about the present 16th Street] encountered the group around a large fire in a lane. Before the fire lay a wounded man, shot in the abdomen and in great pain. Lieutenant Caldwell was present, as was Mr. Collier's buggy. A considerable conversation ensued, but no arrests were made that night. Two or three days later, however, the whole group was served with a warrant, they having been indicted for the offense of aggravated riot. They were found guilty as charged in Fulton Superior Court, whereupon the case was carried to the Supreme Court of Georgia on two counts, one being that the verdict was contrary to the evidence.

Associate Justice Charles J. Jenkins, in an opinion delivered in November, 1864, at Milledgeville, closed the opinion of the court, affirming the previous decision, in the following language:

> "Did Collier incur the guilt and penalty of murder, or even of manslaughter, by killing Knight, who was entering the window immediately upon breaking it? Why not? Because the person killed was violently and unlawfully entering his dwelling. This is a fair test. The evidence, indeed, screens them from the guilt and penalty of burglary, because it raises no presumption of intention to commit a felony after entrance; but it stamps their whole conduct with the character of aggravated riot. So far is the verdict from being contrary to the evidence, that evidence would have shamed a jury returning any other verdict."[11]

The fall of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, occasioned apprehension upon the part of Confederate authorities for the safety of cities to the southeast, including Atlanta.

Eleven days after the surrender of the river city, Colonel J. F. Gilmer wrote to Colonel Lemuel P. Grant of Atlanta, Chief Engineer of the Department of Georgia, in regard to fortifying the City of Atlanta. On July 22, 1863, Colonel Grant replied, saying that he and Colonel M. H. Wright, commander of the garrison, proposed to have accurate surveys made and to map a portion of the country west of Atlanta, embracing various crossings of the Chattahoochee River. On July 24th Grant wrote to Captain Arnold at Augusta requesting 100 spades or shovels and 100 picks.[12]

Grant reported to Gilmer on August 4th that defensive works had been commenced at the Chattahoochee ferries. He also said in the same report that the fortification of the city would be a problem second only to the fortification of Richmond; that there would have to be a cordon of enclosed works within supporting distance of each other; that the line would be ten to twelve miles in extent and there would be twelve to fifteen centers of resistance or strategic points around which the works would be built. Three weeks later Colonel Grant issued orders to John W. Hunt to proceed to hire Negroes from their owners at $25 per month, or one dollar per working day, and to obtain rations for work on the Atlanta fortifications.[13]

The matter of manual labor was no problem at all. Each county in the State was levied on for a certain quota of able-bodied male slaves. The sheriff of each county was charged with collecting them. As soon as a county's quota was made up, its sheriff would wire Colonel Grant in Atlanta, and transportation would be furnished to bring the slaves to the city, where they were quartered in barracks. The dollar per day compensation was paid to the respective owners of the slaves.[14]

By October 30, 1863, Grant was able to report to Gilmer that he had nearly completed a line of defenses around Atlanta, consisting of seventeen redoubts on prominent eminences connected by rifle pits. The redoubts had five faces, the angles varying with the contours of the hills. The works were open in the rear and Grant asked if they should be enclosed with stockades. A second line was suggested by the War Department, they asking whether the timber in front should be felled. Grant stated that the destruction of forest would be great.[15]

As completed the earthen banks had a trench in front, which meant that all sorts of impediments to an enemy could be laid in the trench and the trench itself would make it difficult to scale the bank. The earth walls were revetted—that is, they were held in place by timbers from sawmills near Atlanta and from lumber from houses which stood in the way of the defenses. At intervals there were platforms constructed for gun emplacements.[16]

On December 1, 1863, Colonel Gilmer came to Atlanta and, after inspecting the defenses, announced that he was well satisfied with both the plan and the work. Colonel Grant's plans and sketches of the defenses of Atlanta bear date of April 12, 1864, by which date the work had been substantially completed, although finishing touches extended into June and some last minute changes were made as late as July 21st, the day intervening between the battles of Peachtree Creek and Atlanta.[17]

The finished line, slightly more than ten miles in length, averaged one and one quarter miles from the center of the city.[18]

For the present-day reader it might be well to identify some of the high points and salient angles of Colonel Grant's handiwork with reference to present streets and sites. Just where construction began is not of record. However, starting at the Georgia Railroad, east of the city, the line crossed just below the old rolling mill on ground now occupied by the Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills. It then ran north along the present line of Randolph Street, and at Irwin veered northwest crossing the Butler Street bottoms to a point on what is now Merritts Avenue just east of Piedmont, again on high ground. The line then continued in a northwest direction to the site of the Fox Theater and Georgia Terrace Hotel to a salient which guarded the Peachtree Road approach to the city.[19]

From this important salient the line took a zigzag southwesterly course, crossing the W. & A. R. R. at the present Jones Avenue, crossed high ground now occupied by Atlanta University, thence to the elevation at the present intersection of West Fair and Ashby streets, thus forming another key salient. From here the line ran almost due south along the present course of Lee Street to a point opposite the Candler Warehouse just south of Gillette Street. It then turned almost due east, crossing the present Pryor Street on the eminence now occupied by the Pryor Street School. Continuing in an easterly direction, the line bisected some of Colonel Grant's property, now included in the park which bears his name, and formed another salient at the present intersection of Boulevard, Southeast and Kalb Street. Some fifty feet of the line at this point were well preserved until 1950 when they were obliterated. The line then ran roughly north to the Georgia Railroad.[20]

The last-minute changes in the inner defense lines of Atlanta, previously referred to, and made for the most part on July 18th and 19th, 1864, involved the northeast, northwest and southeast salients. On the northeast the line was extended outward so as to run from the Peachtree and Ponce de Leon Avenue redoubt almost due east between the present courses of Ponce de Leon and North avenues to about where Boulevard intersects; thence in a southeasterly direction to the high ground now occupied by the N. B. Forrest School. From this point it joined the old line at about the present intersection of Cain and Randolph streets.[21]

The northwest angle was considerably extended so as to attain high ground and avoid the Tanyard Branch Valley, wherein is now situated Techwood Homes. The new line ran almost due west from the Fox Theater site to Marietta and Bankhead Avenue, then the Powder Springs Road. Forts on this line were located at the present intersection of Third and Williams streets; the hill whereon the Academic Building of Georgia Tech now stands and at Marietta Street and Fort Hood Place, opposite Bankhead. Just before reaching this point the line passed just north of the old Ponder place described in Chapter 39. The new northwest salient, Ford Hood, was probably the most formidable on the entire line.[22]

From Fort Hood the new line ran in a southwesterly direction to join the original line at West Fair and Ashby streets. One of the forts on this stretch, still in a fair state of preservation, may be seen atop the hill at the southwest corner of Sunset Avenue and Kennedy Street.[23]

The southeast extension of the fortifications carried the line to the southeast corner of the present Grant Park, where Fort Walker, the new salient, is still preserved. This fort commanded low ground to the south and east.[24]

The strength of Colonel Grant's Atlanta defense line was never fully tested. By the time the Federal Army got close enough to the city for a real test to be made, General Hood had superseded General Johnston in command of the Confederate forces. He had no confidence in entrenchments, but relied upon the striking power of his infantry to defend the city.[25]

While Colonel Grant, his assistants, and hundreds of slaves were sweating over their construction job, the Fulton County grand juries for the April, 1864, term of court were making pungent observations relative to local conditions. The jury for the first week of the term observed:

"We have examined the jail and find it in an insecure condition. We recommend the Inferior Court to have the floors of the four upper rooms relaid across the old floors with two and a half inch plank well spiked, and also to be repaired overhead. We recommend to the Court that the Jailor be allowed at least two good men to act as Guard, and assist in any way the Jailor may direct.

"2nd. We beg leave to present as an intolerable nuisance the slaughter pens in the western end of the City of Atlanta, and urge upon the authorities having charge of the sanitary regulations of the town and County, the speedy removal of the vast accumulations of filth about said pens, which is, even at this early period [in the spring] sufficient to taint the atmosphere of the whole surrounding district, rendering unfit for habitation the neighborhood contiguous to them, and in the opinion of this body, calculated to produce pestilence at no distant period. We earnestly recommend that speedy and efficient means be taken to suppress the nuisance thus created, and bring to punishment those who manifest such reckless disregard of the comfort and health of the neighborhood.

"3rd. We find a number of Soldiers' families still complaining that they do not receive sufficient assistance to furnish them with the necessaries of life. We are at a loss to conceive how this can be, as there was ample provision made by our last Legislature for their support. We would respectfully urge upon our Inferior Court to investigate the matter and see that the families of our gallant soldiers now in the field receive the benefit of said fund.

"4th. We are pained to observe that there are a large number of idle and vicious boys strolling about the City, appearing to be under no control and frequenting many places of vice, corrupting and being corrupted. We recommend that a House of Correction be provided for them by those whose duty and authority it is to make such provisions.

"5th. We beg leave to suggest that schools for the education of the children of the poor of the City and County be organized, that there may be thus developed among the poor, many good minds otherwise groping in mental darkness, which too often tends to hasten human beings along the paths of destruction."[26]

JOHN J. THRASHER, Foreman.

John W. Medlock
Johnson W. Bridwell
Moses Holland
Hardy Treadwell
Francis P. Perdue
James M. Isom
George F. Glazner
Joel Herring
Elijah M. Donehoo
Charles W. Dill

George W. D. Cook
James Robinson
Patrick O'Conner
John C. McDaniel
Thomas W. McArthor
Russell Baker
Alfred Austell
Jedidiah M. Blackwell
Isaac G. Mitchell
James S. Hackett

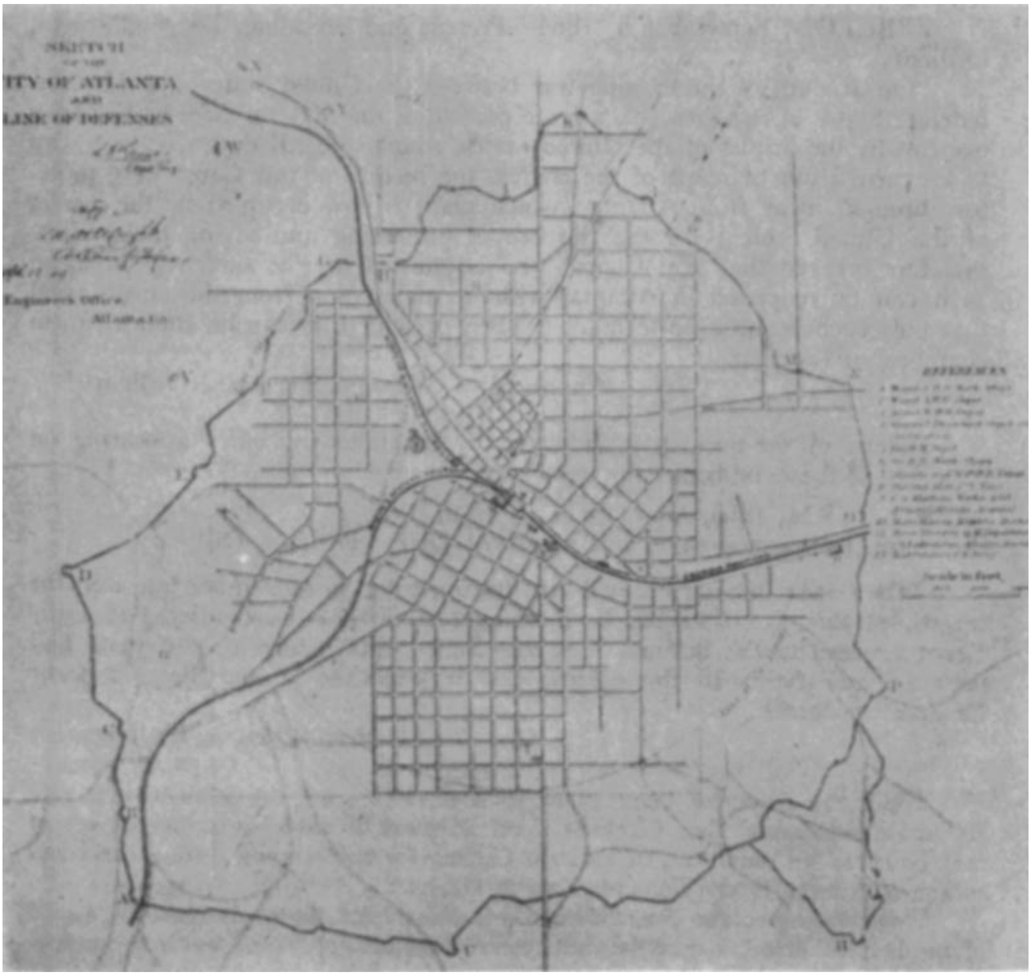
The grand jury for the second week of the term also commented caustically upon the subject of slaughter pens, summing up as follows: "It being said that disease is more terrible than an army with banners, we should be ready at once to fight the one, while in prudence we remove the cause of the other."[27]

During the April term several indictments were returned against divers citizens, including John McMaster, Michael Kreis, Sloan Hackett and James Austin for misdemeanors in keeping unsanitary slaughter pens on Whitehall Road, McDonough Street [Capitol Avenue] and other locations near and outside the city limits.[28]

The grand jury for the third week of the term included in its presentments the following:

"We are not sure it is our business, but at any rate would respectfully direct the attention of the authorities having control of the Court House grounds to their condition. The railing is dilapidated and incapable of protecting the grounds from the intrusions of biped or quadruped. The shade trees, originally intended for ornament and pleasure, are now used for tying up horses, and many of them killed. A small outlay would, in our opinion, put them in order, and for the credit of the City and County it should be done.

"We find that the practice of permitting slaves to hire their own time is on the increase and constantly abused, and therefore recommend the Legislature to pass a law prohibiting owners of slaves to allow them this privilege, and we likewise desire the City Council of Atlanta not only to cooperate in this, our request, but to enforce the City Ordinance upon the subject.



(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

Confederate line of defenses, City of Atlanta, 1864, as laid out by L. P. Grant, Capt. Engineers, from Atlas Plate LI, Official Records

"We have been attentively served by our worthy Bailiff Mr. William Kile, for whom we return our thanks, and have also received every attention from Mr. Patrick Fitzgibbon, the keeper of the City Hall, for which he will please accept our thanks."

John H. Steele, Foreman.[29]

From June 8, 1864, to April 13, 1865, the Minutes of the Fulton County Superior Court are blank.

The Fulton County records, not very voluminous in 1864 were, during the summer of that year removed to Zebulon, Pike County, Georgia, for safekeeping. On page 445 of Minute Book "A" Fulton Court of Ordinary appears the following:

> "Fulton Court of Ordinary, September term, 1864. Case. Removal of Records from County.
>
> ZEBULON, September 5, 1864—Present and presiding, Daniel Pittman, Ordinary.
>
> "On account of the existing war between the United States and the Confederate States of America . . . a large portion of the State of Georgia has been overrun by the armies of the United States, county records destroyed or forced to be carried out of reach of the enemy, the records of this Court were therefore brought away from Atlanta (which place is now occupied by the armies of the United States) for the purpose of preserving and saving them. It is therefore ordered that said Court stand adjourned over to such regular term, as it can be reopened in Atlanta, without molestation from the enemy, and that only such business be transacted when presented, as can be attended to in chambers or vacation.
>
> Approved: DANIEL PITTMAN, Ordinary."

Return of the records is indicated by the following entry appearing on page 446 of the same book:

> "APRIL TERM, 1865, Atlanta, Ga., April 3, 1865.
> Court of Ordinary; present and presiding, Daniel Pittman, Ordinary.
>
> "The enemy having vacated Atlanta sometime in November last, and the records of this Court having been brought back, it is now ordered that the Court proceed to the business that may be brought before it, as if there had been no molestation by the existing war between the United States and the Confederate States.
>
> DANIEL PITTMAN, Ordinary."

While the Superior Court Minutes are silent upon the subject, it is said [by his descendants] that Clerk William Richard Venable took the records of that court to his old home in Jackson County for safekeeping during the occupation of Atlanta by the Federal Army in 1864.

However, since the courthouse-city hall escaped destruction at the hands of the Federal Army, it may be that the removal of the records was unnecessary.

During late 1863 and early 1864 Atlanta became a haven for refugee newspapers and their editors. Some of them became so peripatetic in fact, that they had but little time to get acquainted with their subscribers and advertisers.

The three best known papers to find temporary sanctuary in Atlanta were the *Chattanooga Rebel, Knoxville Register* and *Memphis Appeal.*[30]

The *Rebel,* a bright and spirited little daily, lingered briefly in Atlanta before the fortunes of war drove it to Griffin, Macon, Columbus and Selma, Alabama. Benjamin B. Crew, later a member of the well-known music firm of Phillips and Crew, was connected with the paper for some time and accompanied it on its wanderings until he joined the Confederate Army. Associated with Mr. Crew at this time, in an editorial capacity, was Henry Watterson, later the famous "Marse Henry" of the *Louisville Courier-Journal.* After leaving the

Rebel, however Watterson joined the staff of the *Southern Confederacy* [newspaper] under the proprietorship of George W. Adair and J. Henley Smith. He was a familiar figure on the streets of Atlanta during this time, but he made few local acquaintances, and with the exception of Asa R. Watson, an associate on the *Confederacy,* no intimate friends.[31]

The *Knoxville Register,* during its brief stay in Atlanta, was edited by Lucius J. DuPre and Major John C. Whitner, the latter subsequently a well-known local insurance man. A frequent editorial contributor during this period was the noted L. Q. C. Lamar.[32]

In addition to the refugee papers Atlanta had at this time four dailies of its own, the *Intelligencer,* Jared I. Whitaker, owner, John H. Steele, editor; *The Southern Confederacy,* owned by George W. Adair and J. Henley Smith; *The Reveille,* S. D. Niles, editor; and the *Commonwealth,* a lively evening paper under J. S. Peterson and W. G. Whidby. By 1864 newsprint was hard to come by and the *Commonwealth* in particular favored its readers with an endless variety of paper. Book paper, pure white news, straw colored, manila, common brown wrapping paper, and even wallpaper were all used by turns in its later editions. Even the *Intelligencer,* which moved to Macon after the occupation, but was the only one of the four to survive the war, was reduced for a time to the issuance of a narrow strip, containing barely a column of reading matter.[33]

During this period newspaper proprietors had all the help they needed and then some, for editors and printers were exempt from conscription. This situation led to the settling of a printers' strike in record time.

Shortly after the printers struck, the editors decided upon a plan. They visited the conscript officer in a body, stated the case, and requested him to conscript the printers, as they were out of a job, and no longer entitled to exemption. The conscript officer had a long head and he knew his duty. "Gentlemen," he said, "you are undoubtedly right. I will go to work at once, and as you are here, I will conscript you to begin with." "Conscript us!" exclaimed the editors. "Certainly. As you have no printers, you can't get out your papers. So you no longer belong to the exempted class." The editors' plan had backfired. They asked for time for a consultation with their printers. The strike was settled in less than fifteen minutes.[34]

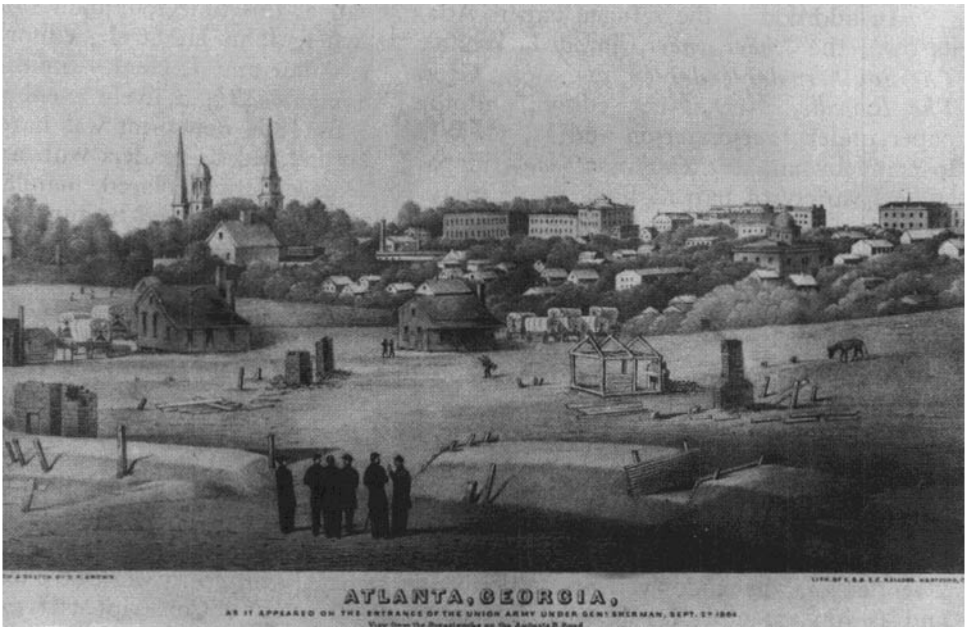
In addition to newspapers, Atlantans of 1864 had other reading matter to choose from. Among Confederate publications in the field of books were *Les Miserables, Lady Audley's Secret, The Captain of the Vulture, No Name,* several of Miss Muhlbach's novels, *Great Expectations, A Strange Story, The Aide-de-camp, The Golden Daggers, Clarimonde,* Pollard's *History of the War, Master William Mitten,* and numerous pamphlets.[35]

These books were miserably printed on coarse brownish-colored paper, with manila or wallpaper covers. They sold at from two to five dollars and everybody bought them. The bookstores also had in stock many volumes published before the war. The novels went first, but later almost everything would sell. Men who had never read a book through in their lives bought costly editions of the old English writers, simply because they wanted to get rid of their Confederate money.[36]

Early in 1864 the Atlanta Volunteer Fire Department acquired its third chief when John H. Mecaslin, in addition to his duties as city treasurer, was elected to succeed S. B. Sherwood, resigned. At the same time he was commissioned Major of the 35th District, commanding the Atlanta Fire Battalion.

While there is no record of specific military services rendered by the firemen, their fire fighting activities during the shelling of the city in August placed them in as great a danger as they would have experienced on the battlefield. Major Mecaslin and his wife refugeed to Baltimore, where relatives resided, during the winter of '64, whereupon Thomas Haney took over as fire chief, serving to the end of the war.[37]

John H. Mecaslin was a useful citizen of Atlanta for 54 years. He was born in Baltimore County, Maryland, in 1825 and came South in 1849, residing first in Richmond, then in Augusta, moving finally to Atlanta in 1852, he then being a pattern maker for the Georgia Railroad. In 1853 he married Mary Ann Mullin of Augusta. Not long afterward he forsook the shop for the business world. Directly after the war he became associated with William G. Peters, a younger brother of Richard, in the operation of the City Flouring Mills at Bartow Street and the W. & A. R. R. About 1872 Major Mecaslin was made treasurer of the Atlanta Gas Light Company; was a director thereof from 1880 to 1906, became president in 1897, and Chairman of the Board in 1904. He served in city council both before and after the war.[38]


ATLANTA, GEORGIA,
AS IT APPEARED ON THE ENTRANCE OF THE UNION ARMY UNDER GEN! SHERMAN, SEPT. 1864

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

From a D. R. Brown drawing. War-time Atlanta; 1864. The city as seen looking west from a point on the Georgia R. R. near Bell Street. D. R. Brown was a soldier in Sherman's army and during the period from Sept.-Nov., 1864 made several sketches of the city while here.

Though a man of many interests, Major Mecaslin's chief interest and relaxation, beyond family ties, was old Fire Company No. 1. The friendships of his earlier years, strengthened by the problems of war and reconstruction common to all, mellowed by the years, found in this organization the opportunities of fraternal intercourse he most enjoyed.[39]

By his first wife, who died in 1883, Major Mecaslin had two daughters, Margaret, who died in childhood, and Kathleen, who became the wife, in

1887, of James Lawrence Harrison, for many years tax assessor of Atlanta. Their children are John M., James L., and George L. (died in 1948), of Atlanta; Frank W., of Norfolk Virginia; De Sales, formerly of Atlanta, now of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Margaret, Mrs. James Clayton Burke, of Atlanta. Major Mecaslin married a second time, in 1888, to Miss Blanche Hardin, daughter of Hon. Mark A. Hardin, of Cass, now Bartow County. Of this union was born one son, John H. Mecaslin, Jr., who died, unmarried, in 1920. Major Mecaslin died April 2, 1906, age 81, and is buried in historic Oakland Cemetery.[40]

Throughout the winter of 1863-1864 the Federal and Confederate armies destined, with some changes and additions, to conduct the Atlanta Campaign, were based on Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Dalton, Georgia, respectively. Since March 18, 1864, the Federal Army had been under command of Major-General William T. Sherman, and the Confederate Army of Tennessee, formerly under Bragg, had been placed under General Joseph E. Johnston on December 27, 1863. Bragg had been relieved of command at his own request and subsequently became military adviser to President Davis, with whom he was a favorite.

By May 1, 1864, General Sherman had assembled at Chattanooga approximately 100,000 men, well equipped with 254 guns. Johnston, at Dalton, 34 miles southeast, had about 50,000 men only fairly well equipped with 187 guns. Soon after the campaign started his forces were augmented to about 60,000 men. Owing to the comparative size of the armies, Johnston was on the defensive, but the territory over which he was to fight was well adapted to defensive tactics. Except for the stretch between the Oostanaula and Etowah rivers, or roughly from Resaca to Cartersville, the country between Dalton and Atlanta was uneven with the numerous watercourses running perpendicular to the line of marching and fighting.[41]

Atlanta, 120 miles from Chattanooga, and 85 miles from Dalton, was Johnston's supply base, and this city, full of machine and railroad shops, foundries and arsenals, after Johnston's army, was Sherman's main objective. Its defense was the crucial task of the opposing Confederate force. Grant's instructions to Sherman in the spring of 1864 directed him "to move against Johnston's army, to break it up, and to get into the interior of the enemy's country as far as you can, inflicting all the damage you can against their resources."[42] Sherman, good soldier that he was, carried out these instructions before the year was over.

The opposing forces, at the beginning of the Atlanta Campaign, May 5, 1864, were constituted as follows:

FEDERAL

Army in the Field, Military Division of the Mississippi.
Major-General William T. Sherman, Commanding.

ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND

Major-General George H. Thomas, Commanding.

FOURTH ARMY CORPS

1. Major-General Oliver O. Howard, Commanding.
2. Major-General David S. Stanley, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION

1. Major-General D. S. Stanley, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General Nathan Kimball, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

1. Major-General John Newton, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General George D. Wagner, Commanding.

THIRD DIVISION

Brigadier-General Thomas J. Wood, Commanding.

FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS

1. Major-General John M. Palmer, Commanding.
2. Brevet Major-General Jefferson C. Davis, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Richard W. Johnson, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General John H. King, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Jefferson C. Davis, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General James D. Morgan, Commanding.

THIRD DIVISION

Brigadier-General Absolam Baird, Commanding.

TWENTIETH ARMY CORPS

1. Major-General Joseph Hooker, Commanding.
2. Major-General Henry W. Slocum, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION

Brigadier-General Alpheus S. Williams, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

Brigadier-General John W. Geary, Commanding.

THIRD DIVISION

1. Major-General Daniel Butterfield, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General William T. Ward, Commanding.

CAVALRY

Brigadier-General W. L. Elliott, Chief of Cavalry.

FIRST DIVISION

Colonel Edward M. McCook, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

Brigadier-General Kenner Garrard, Commanding.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE

1. Major-General James B. McPherson, Commanding.
2. Major-General Oliver O. Howard, Commanding.

FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS

Major-General John A. Logan, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION.

1. Brigadier-General Peter J. Osterhaus, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General Charles R. Woods, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Morgan L. Smith, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General J. A. J. Lightburn, Commanding.
3. Brigadier-General William B. Hazen, Commanding.

THIRD DIVISION

Brigadier-General John E. Smith, Commanding.

NOTE: This division garrisoned Allatoona and other posts, and was not with the moving column.

FOURTH DIVISION

Brigadier-General William Harrow, Commanding.

SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS

NOTE: The First and Third Divisions of this corps were left in the Mississippi Valley. After the fall of Atlanta the Second Division was transferred to the Fifteenth Corps, and the Fourth to the Seventeeth.

Major-General Grenville M. Dodge, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Thomas W. Sweeny, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General John M. Corse, Commanding.

FOURTH DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General James C. Veatch, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General John W. Fuller, Commanding.

SEVENTEENTH ARMY CORPS

Major-General Frank P. Blair, Jr., Commanding.

NOTE: The First and Second Divisions of this corps were left in the Mississippi Valley.

THIRD DIVISION

Brigadier-General Mortimer D. Leggett, Commanding.

FOURTH DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Walter Q. Gresham, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General Giles A. Smith, Commanding.

ARMY OF THE OHIO
TWENTY-THIRD ARMY CORPS

Major-General John M. Schofield, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brigadier-General Alvin P. Hovey, Commanding.

SECOND DIVISION

1. Brigadier-General Henry M. Judah, Commanding.
2. Brigadier-General Milo S. Hascall, Commanding.

THIRD DIVISION

Brigadier-General Jacob D. Cox, Commanding.

CAVALRY, ARMY OF THE OHIO

Major-General George Stoneman, Commanding.

FIRST DIVISION.

Colonel Israel T. Garrard, Commanding.

PRINCIPAL CAVALRY COMMANDERS

Major-General George Stoneman.
Brigadier-General Judson Kirkpatrick.
Brigadier-General Kenner Garrard.
Brigadier-General Edward M. McCook.[43]

CONDEDERATE ARMY

Army of Tennessee, General Joseph E. Johnston, Commanding.

NOTE: The Confederate Army did not have its corps, divisions, etc., numbered; they were known by the names of the commanders, and in the case of the brigades, seem to have continued to bear the name of the brigadier commanding at the beginning of the campaign, even when changes in command occurred.

HARDEE'S ARMY CORPS

Lieutenant-General William J. Hardee, Commanding.

MAJOR-GENERAL B. F. CHEATHAM'S DIVISION

Brigades—Maney's, Stahl's, Wright's, Vaughn's.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. H. T. WALKER'S DIVISION

Brigades—Mercer's, Jackson's, Gist's, Stevens'.

MAJOR-GENERAL PAT R. CLEBURNE'S DIVISION

Brigades—Polk's, Loring's, Govan's, Granbury's.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. B. BATE'S DIVISION

Brigades—Tyler's, Lewis', Finley's.

HOOD'S ARMY CORPS

Lieutenant-General John B. Hood, Commanding.

MAJOR-GENERAL T. C. HINDMAN'S DIVISION

Brigades—Deas', Manigault's, Tucker's, Walthall's.

MAJOR-GENERAL C. L. STEVENSON'S DIVISION

Brigades—Brown's, Cummings', Reynolds', Pettus'.

MAJOR-GENERAL A. P. STEWART'S DIVISION

Brigades—Stovall's, Clayton's, Gibson's, Baker's.

WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS

Major-General Joseph Wheeler, Commanding.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM T. MARTIN'S DIVISION

Brigades—Allen's, Iverson's.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL J. H. KELLEY'S DIVISION

Brigades—Anderson's, Dibbrell's, Hannon's.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. T. C. HUME'S DIVISION

Brigades—Ashby's, Harrison's, Williams'.

ARTILLERY

Brigadier-General F. A. Shoup, Commanding.

BATTALIONS ATTACHED TO HARDEE'S CORPS

Col. M. Smith, Commanding.
Haxton's, Hotchkiss', Martin's, Cobb's.

BATTALIONS ATTACHED TO HOOD'S CORPS

Col. B. F. Beckham, Commanding.
Courtney's, Eldridge's, Johnston's.

WHEELER'S CORPS

Lt.-Col. F. W. Robertson, Commanding.
Five Batteries.

RESERVE BATTALIONS

Eight Batteries—Williams', Palmer's and Waddell's Battalions.

ENGINEER TROOPS

Major J. W. Green, Commanding.

ARMY OF MISSISSIPPI

Major-General W. W. Loring, Commanding.

MAJOR-GENERAL S. G. FRENCH'S DIVISION

Brigades—Ector's, Cockrell's, Sears'.

MAJOR-GENERAL W. W. LORING'S DIVISION
Brigadier-General W. S. Featherstone, Commanding.
Brigades—Adams', Featherstone's, Scott's.

MAJOR-GENERAL ED. C. WALTHALL'S DIVISION
Brigades—Quarles'. Canty's, Reynolds'.

CAVALRY

Brigadier-General W. H. Jackson, Commanding.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL W. H. JACKSON'S DIVISION
Brigades—Armstrong's, Ross', Ferguson's.

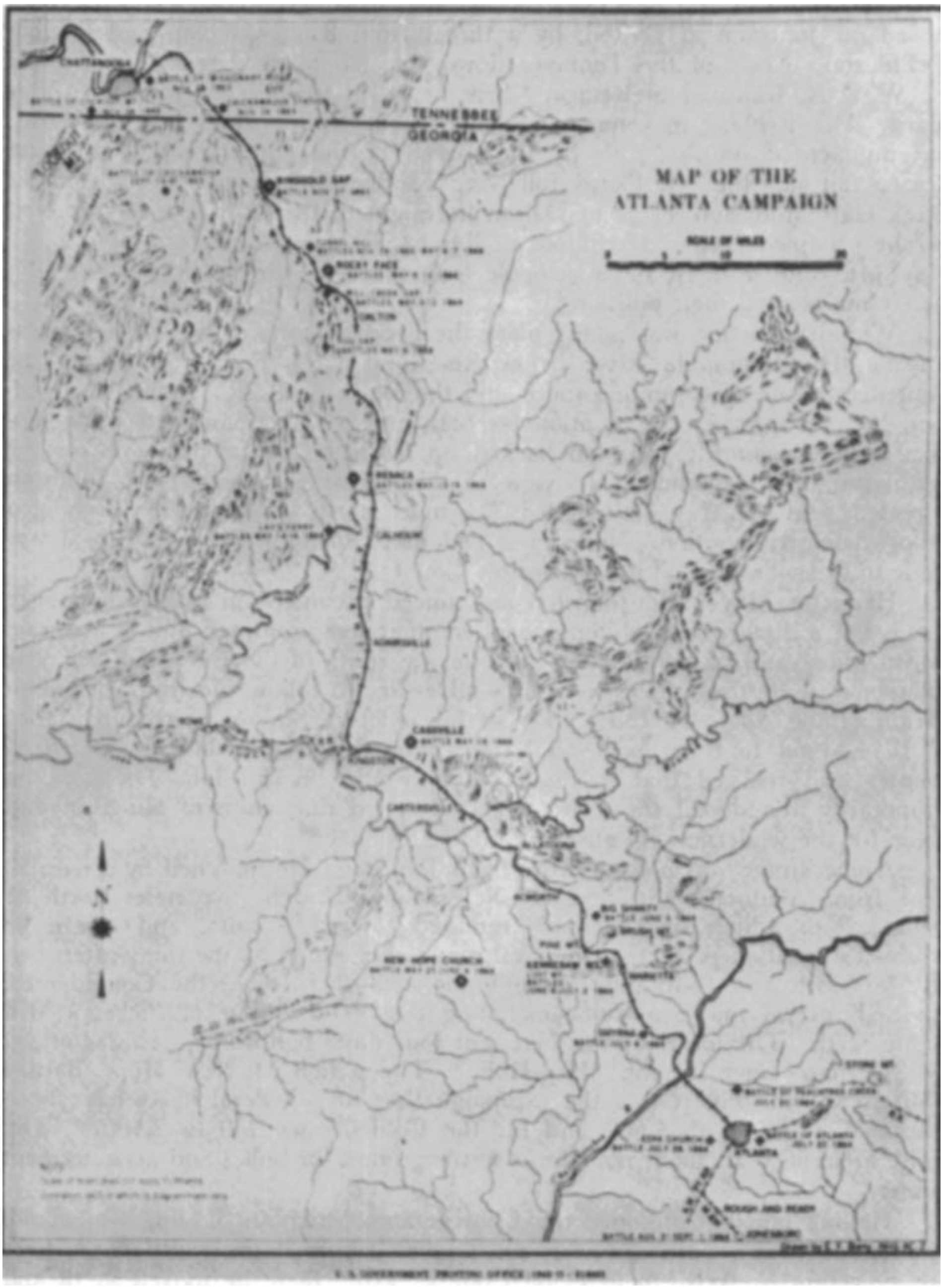
ARTILLERY

Brigades—Storr's, Myrick's, Preston's, Waitie's.[44]

Sherman described the Atlanta Campaign in these words: "We were generally in a wooded country, and, though our lines were deployed according to tactics, the men generally fought in strong skirmish lines, taking advantage of the shape of the ground, and of every cover. We were generally the assailants, and in wooded and broken countries the 'defensive' had a positive advantage over us, for they were always ready, had cover, and always knew the ground to their immediate front; whereas we, their assailants, had to grope our way over unknown ground, and generally found a cleared field or prepared entanglements that held us for a time under a close and withering fire. Rarely did the opposing lines in compact order come into actual contact, but when, as at Peach Tree Creek and Atlanta, the lines did become commingled, the men fought individually in every possible style, more frequently with the musket clubbed than with the bayonet."[45]

Military critics considered the Atlanta Campaign a model of military strategy, and they have found little in it to criticize. One critic sums up the campaign in these words: "Except in attacking the Kennesaw Mountain on June 27th, the character of Sherman's operations was, throughout, the same. To protect his main line from a counterattack, he left a force intrenched across it. He then reinforced his flanking wing to a strength sufficient to cope with the whole army of the enemy, and directed it by a circuit off the main line, upon the Confederate rear. In every case the operation was successful, obliging Johnston forthwith to abandon his strongest positions, and to retreat." Another critic comments: "It is rather curious to note that Johnston made no effort to defend the rivers across his line of retreat by taking positions behind them; and that he appeared rather to prefer having a river at his back, as at Resaca and at the Chattahoochee. He was careful to provide plenty of bridges for his retreat, and by destroying them at the right time, he hindered the pursuit. Both hostile armies in this campaign made constant use of fieldworks. It was only by means of intrenching that Sherman was able to hold Johnson with a small force in front, while he dispatched the bulk of his command upon the wide turning movements."[46]

Writing many years after the war, General Sherman said of his adversary in the Atlanta Campaign up to the Battle of Peachtree Creek: "No officer or


MAP OF THE
ATLANTA CAMPAIGN
SCALE OF MILES
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5
10
20
TENNESSEE
GEORGIA
CHATTANOOGA
RINGGOLD GAP
ROCKY FACE
DALTON
RESACA
CALHOUN
ADAIRSVILLE
CASSVILLE
BATTLE MAY 19 1864
KINGSTON
CARTERSVILLE
ALLATOONA
ACWORTH
BIG SHANTY
PINE MT.
KENNESAW MT.
MARIETTA
NEW HOPE CHURCH
SMYRNA
STONE MT.
BATTLE OF PEACHTREE CREEK
JULY 20 1864
EZRA CHURCH
BATTLE JULY 28 1864
BATTLE OF ATLANTA
JULY 22 1864
ATLANTA
ROUGH AND READY
JONESBORO
BATTLE AUG. 31 SEPT. 1, 1864
N
U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1960

soldier who ever served under me will ever question the generalship of Joseph E. Johnston. His retreats were timely, in good order, and he left nothing behind."[47]

The Atlanta Campaign began in earnest on May 8, 1864, when Sherman moved on Johnston at Dalton, by a threat from Ringgold Gap and sending McPherson's Army of the Tennesee down through Snake Creek Gap west of the W. & A. Railroad to Resaca, where he failed to dislodge Johnston's rear guard. This flanking movement, designed to cut off Johnston's line of retreat, was augmented on the 13th by the march of the entire Federal army to Resaca, all but the 4th Corps following McPherson's forces through Snake Creek Gap. Johnston let go at Dalton the night of the 12th, and by the next day he occupied prepared positions at Resaca, 18 miles southward. There, on May 14th and 15th, a bitter struggle took place in which the Confederates merely maintained their position.[48]

While this action was taking place the Federal Army of the Tennesee was crossing the Oostanaula River below Resaca at Lay's Ferry to threaten the Confederate line of communications and the W. & A. R. R. Indeed this railroad became a bone of contention for both armies. Sherman used it for supplies as he advanced; Johnston backed up his trains on its iron rails, as the southward drift demanded. In view of this threat to his rail line Johnston retreated, and on May 17th halted 3½ miles north of Adairsville, seeking a strong defensive position. None presented itself, so a further withdrawal was made to Cassville in what is now Bartow County.[49]

Here, on May 19th, Johnston announced his intention to stay and fight it out, but a disagreement among corps commanders prompted him to abandon his intention, and by noon of the 20th he was south of the Etowah River near Allatoona. Johnston had expected his adversary to follow him into the rough terrain of the Allatoona range, but at this juncture Sherman's reconnaissance of 1844 stood him in good stead. He remembered this difficult stretch of country and realized that to attack there would be suicidal. Therefore he temporarily abandoned the railroad and dropped due south of Kingston and made for the wilderness country of Paulding County.[50]

A checkmate was now in order from Johnston. He marched by a parallel road from Allatoona and reached New Hope Church, five miles north of Dallas, from which several roads radiated toward Atlanta, and where he assumed a position protecting the vital roads. Beginning on the rainy afternoon of May 25th and continuing through the next three days, the Confederates repulsed several major assaults, including the bloody affair of Pickett's Mill on the 27th. The locale of this incessant four days' fighting was characterized by Sherman's men as the "Hell-Hole." The action at New Hope Baptist Church was the bitterest of the campaign thus far. Federal losses have been estimated at 3,000 to 4,500 and for the Confederates 900 to 2,100.[51] The entire area, 86 years later, remains as fertile ground for bullet and accouterment hunters.

Having failed to dislodge the Confederates, Sherman, finding his off-rail position awkward, particularly as to supplies, regained the railroad on June 7th, this time at Acworth in Cobb County. From there he moved south and seized Big Shanty, now Kennesaw. He then threw his long line to the north and westward of Kennesaw Mountain, which became after variations in alignment the key to Johnston's ten-mile-long defense line. Pine Mountain, an eminence in front of this line, was also occupied. On June 14th Generals

Johnston, Hardee and Polk rode to the summit of Pine Mountain to observe the Federal lines. Here Leonidas Polk, commander of Polk's Corps, Army of Mississippi, C.S.A., and Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana, was killed by a direct hit from a cannon shot fired from a Federal gun some three-quarters of a mile away.

Practically all of June was rainy. Roads turned to quagmires and fields to seas of mud. But though the weather was a deterrent to both sides, not a day during the month, from the 7th on, was without its thrust and parry along the Kennesaw Mountain lines. Johnston, of course, had the advantage of position, being intrenched on and at the base of the mountain. On the morning of June 22nd, Hood's corps, which had been transferred from Johnston's right the night before, to extend the left toward the Powder Springs Road, attacked Hooker's corps and part of Schofield's. In this action Hood was defeated at the Valentine Kolb farm 4½ miles southwest of Marietta.[53]

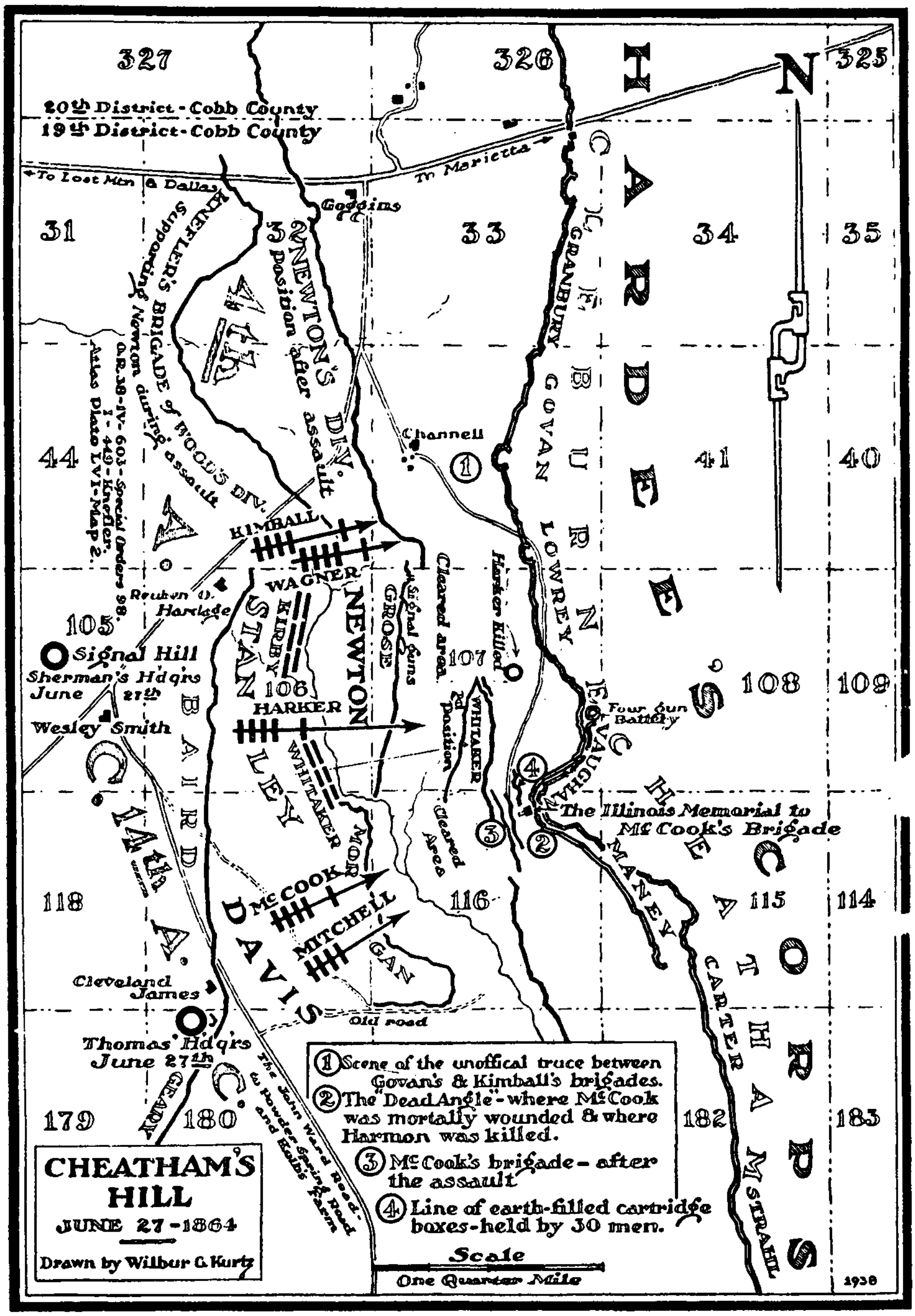
Sherman was now confronted with the choice of making a frontal assault upon heavily fortified positions on the mountain or of attempting another turning movement. Muddy roads made the latter especially difficult. Furthermore, his troops were tired of marching and wanted to fight. Lincoln, running for re-election, needed a Federal victory to bolster his policy of continuing the war. If the frontal assault succeeded, all military resistance in north Georgia might be ended; if it failed, the flanking movement still could be attempted. These considerations determined Sherman to risk a frontal assault.[54]

The assault was made at two separate points against the Confederate center on the morning of June 27th. One column struck south of Kennesaw Mountain along the Burnt Hickory Road. Another was hurled against a salient south of the Dallas Road, defended by General Cheatham, and now known as Cheatham's Hill. Eight thousand troops were sent against the Confederates at Cheatham's Hill, and 5,500 on the point south of Kenesaw Mountain. At Cheatham's Hill the Federals lost 1,580 men in killed, wounded and captured, against slightly over 200 for the Confederates; in the attack on the south point of Kennesaw Mountain, the Federals lost about 600 men, including 30 officers, against half that number of Southern troops. The attack thus failed with heavy losses.[55] Sherman lost two general officers in the engagements, Generals Harker and McCook. A large number of the Federal soldiers killed at Kennesaw Mountain are now buried in the National Cemetery at Marietta, established after the war.

General Oliver O. Howard has left a description of a scene following some of the heaviest fighting at Kennesaw Mountain:

> "There were temporary operating tables with men stretched upon them; there were diligent medical officers, with their attendants and medical helpers, with coats off and sleeves rolled up, and hands and arms, clothes and faces sprinkled with blood. The lights outside and in were fitful and uncertain; smoky lights for the most part, from torches of pine knots. It was a weird, horrible picture, and the very heavens seemed to be in sympathy with the apparent confusion."[56]

Realizing that the Confederate position could be carried only by a tremendous sacrifice of men, Sherman resumed the flanking tactics which he had employed so often. A Federal column was extended far beyond the Confederate left, and Johnston's line of communications to Atlanta was threatened. Consequently, on the night of July 2nd, the Confederates withdrew, thus ending the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.[57]


327
326
325
N
20th District - Cobb County
19th District - Cobb County
To Lost Mtn & Dallas
To Marietta
Goggins
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HARDEE'S
CHEATHAM'S
CORPS
4th A. C.
14th A. C.
KNEFLER'S BRIGADE of WOOD'S DIV.
Supporting Newton during assault
O.R. 38-IV-603 - Special Orders 98.
I - 449 - Knefler.
Atlas Plate LVI - Map 2.
NEWTON'S DIV.
Position after assault
KIMBALL
WAGNER
KIRBY
NEWTON
GROSE
Signal Guns
Cleared area.
STANLEY
HARKER
WHITAKER
WHITAKER
2d Position
Cleared Area
Harker Killed
Channell
Reuben O. Hardage
Signal Hill
Sherman's Hdqrs
June 27th
Wesley Smith
BAIRD
DAVIS
McCOOK
MITCHELL
MORGAN
Cleveland James
Thomas' Hdqrs
June 27th
GEARY
Old road
The John Ward Road to Powder Spring Road and Kolb's Farm
CLEBURNE
GRANBURY
GOVAN
LOWREY
Four Gun Battery
VAUGHAN
MANEY
CARTER
STRAHL
The Illinois Memorial to McCook's Brigade
①
②
③
④
Scale
One Quarter Mile
1938

CHEATHAM'S HILL

JUNE 27 - 1864

Drawn by Wilbur G. Kurtz

① Scene of the unoffical truce between Govan's & Kimball's brigades.

② The "Dead Angle" - where McCook was mortally wounded & where Harmon was killed.

③ McCook's brigade - after the assault.

④ Line of earth-filled cartridge boxes - held by 30 men.

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

William Tecumseh Sherman had covered some seventy miles of difficult terrain in less than two months. He was carrying out his orders with alacrity to advance toward the heart of the Confederacy.

Meanwhile life was going on away from the battle fronts for not everyone was in the army. Almost coincidentally with the beginning of the Atlanta campaign, the following notice appeared in the *Intelligencer* for May 9th:

> "ATTENTION MILITIA! All persons between the ages of 16 and 60, not in the service of the Confederate States, in the second ward, are hereby notified to be and appear at the City Hall today, at 2 o'clock P.M., for the purpose of being armed and equipped for local defense. Herein fail not under penalty.
>
> William Wilson, Commanding."

A similar notice was issued with reference to the first ward by S. W. Thornton, captain commanding, and with reference to the Fulton County militia by Z. A. Rice, lieutenant-colonel commanding.

The process of robbing the cradle and the grave had begun.

About this time there was considerable fear expressed as to the prospects of Atlanta falling into the enemy's hands. But it was thought best by the *Intelligencer* to ridicule such fears, which it did on May 14th.

> "On the street, every minute, the ravens are croaking. Do you hear them? There is a knot of them on the corner shaking their heads, with long faces and restless eyes. They say that General Johnston is falling back, that the greater portion of our army is at Resaca and Calhoun. Doubtless a considerable portion of our army is at these points, in the rear of Dalton, which requires attention. But we have no fear of the results, for we keep it constantly and confidently before us that General Johnston and his great and invincible satellites are working out the problem of battle and victory at the great chess board at the front."

The *Intelligencer,* to say the least, was maintaining the confident spirit of 1861.

During the heat of all this speculation as to whether Johnston would be able to successfully defend Atlanta, the advertising columns of the *Intelligencer* announced a cure for cancer and informed the public that slaves, in profusion, were still available. The following ads appeared on May 11, 1864:

LOOK AT THIS

I Have been in the practice of medicine for several years, and have made a discovery of a complete cure for cancers, old ulcers, polypus, fistulas, etc.

I can be found at all times six miles northwest of Atlanta, on the Pace & Howell's Ferry Road. Address Concord P.O., Fulton County, Ga.

Dr. F. C. Ford.

ROBERT A. CRAWFORD
(formerly Crawford, Frazer & Co.)

NEGRO DEALER
Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia

The most extensive Negro depot in the Confederacy,
cleanly, healthy, safe and comfortable.
Porters experienced and trusty lock-up. Discipline, and fare, all right.

STOCK CONSTANTLY REPLENISHED
by experienced buyers, and by consignments.

CASH ADVANCES TO REGULAR TRADERS
usually on hand.

Cooks (meat and pastry), washers and ironers, house servants, and seamstresses, blacksmiths, carpenters, field hands, shoemakers, plow boys and girls, body servants, waiters, drivers and families.

My extensive acquaintance and long experience in the business secure speedy and satisfactory sales.

Parties sending me Negroes by Railroad will find my old and trusty Porters, "Andrew" and "Anthony", about the train as usual.

ROBERT A. CRAWFORD,
No. 10 Peachtree Street.

On May 15th the *Intelligencer* commented:

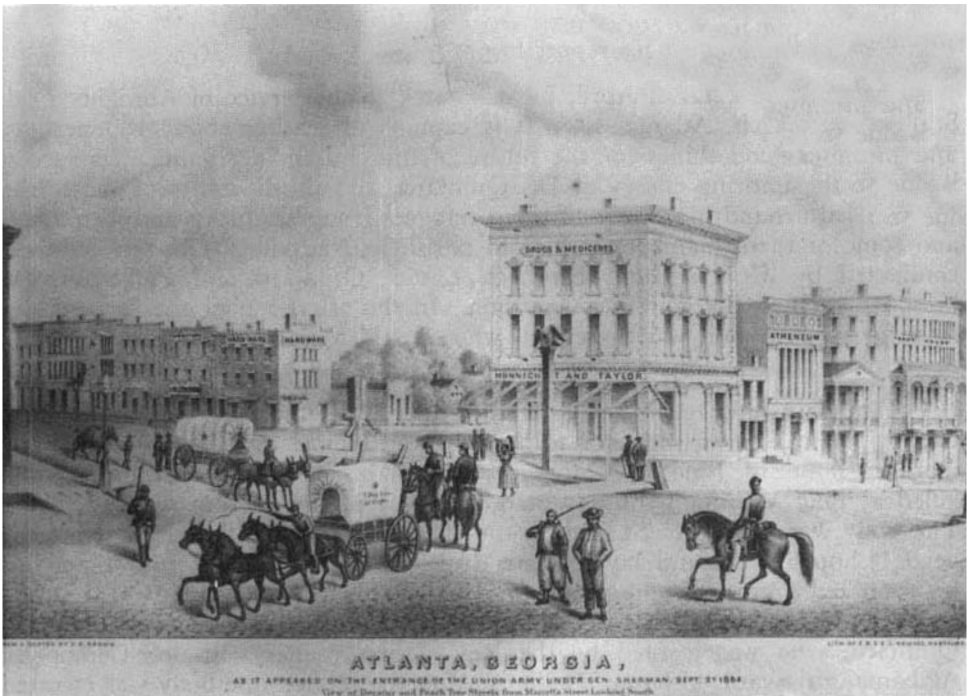
"There seems to be an extraordinary interest exhibited in religious works at the present time. The First Baptist Church continues to be crowded night after night, and many persons are seeking the way to become Christians. At Wesley Chapel, the revival progresses with unabated zeal and interest, and accounts from various parts of the army state that our soldiers are enlisting in great numbers under the banner of the Most High."

Among the soldiers who enlisted in the Army of the Lord at this time was General John B. Hood himself. He was baptized at Dalton on the night of May 11th by the Bishop-General, Leonidas Polk.[58]

It was during this time of increased church attendance and swelling temporary population in Atlanta, both civilian and military, that a need was felt for another Episcopal Church.

The Rev. Charles T. Quintard, of Tennessee, after a varied career as physician, surgeon and cleric was, in early 1864, appointed to the post of chaplain-at-large to the army of General Joseph E. Johnston then wintering at Dalton, Georgia. In February the doctor was ordered to Atlanta, where his services as both physician and chaplain were needed in the military hospitals. While here he took note of the numerous refugees in the city from Tennessee and Kentucky, among them a number of friends and former parishioners of his church in Nashville—the Church of the Advent.

St. Philip's, Atlanta's only Episcopal Church at the time, was housed in a small frame building at Washington and Hunter streets, and was barely large enough to accommodate its own communicants. For this reason, Dr. Quintard determined to organize a new parish. The Rt. Rev. Stephen Elliott, first Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia, was favorable to the project, as was Rev. Andrew F. Freeman, rector of St. Philip's.


ATHENEUM
ATLANTA, GEORGIA,
AS IT APPEARED ON THE ENTRANCE OF THE UNION ARMY UNDER GEN. SHERMAN, SEPT 2d 1864

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

From a D. R. Brown drawing. War-time Atlanta 1864. Looking east from Marietta Street across present Five Points down Decatur Street and up Peachtree. The Athenæum, Atlanta's first theater, and the Trout House, a leading hotel, faced Decatur Street. The hardware store of T. M. Clarke stood on the northeast corner of Peachtree and Edgewood, then called Cherokee Street.

During February, 1864, pending the erection of a building, Dr. Quintard began to hold services in Rev. Isaac G. Mitchell's Protestant Methodist Church at the northwest corner of Forsyth and Garnett streets, which building had been offered for that purpose.

Not long afterward a lot was secured—there is no record of its purchase for church purposes—fronting on the south side of Walton Street between Broad (then Bridge) Street and Forsyth (then Wadley) Street. It corresponded almost exactly with the present Walton Street entrance to the Grant Building. Lumber was bought or donated and labor was immediately forthcoming from soldiers of the Atlanta garrison. Messrs. Quimby, Robinson & Company, of the Etowah Iron Works, furnished the nails; the Sunday School of St. Paul's, Augusta, presented a faldstool of black walnut, and the vestry of Christ Church, Macon, an elegant lecturn. James Ormond, a vestryman of St. Philip's, Atlanta, presented a flagon, and Mrs. Richard Peters, a pair of silver goblets.

The frame building of the first St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Atlanta cost $12,000 and was described by Dr. Quintard in the following language: "It was a most attractive building, handsomely furnished, and although somewhat 'Confederate' in style, would have compared favorably with most churches built in the days of peace and prosperity. Within its portals devout worshipers —many distinguished Confederate officers among them—were delighted to turn aside from the bloody strife of war and bow themselves before the Throne of Grace."

Bishop Elliott, in his report for May 5, 1864, said:

"Friday, the 22nd of April, I consecrated to the service of Almighty God, St. Luke's Church, Atlanta. . . . It is capable of seating about 400 persons, and promises good things for the future of the church in Atlanta. Its success is due to the untiring energy of Dr. Quintard, and the liberality of those who have rallied around him, most of them refugees from Kentucky and Tennessee, and some of them members of his old parish in Nashville. The services were conducted by Messrs. Hunt, Benedict, Easter, Quintard and Pinkerton, the bishop preaching the convention sermon. In the afternoon of the same day a class for confirmation was presented, when I laid hands upon five persons, the first fruits of this enterprise."

Two days later, April 24th, marked the first Sunday service in the new church. Its career was destined to be short and tempestuous. During the early morning hours of June 15th, the mortal remains of General Leonidas Polk, killed at Pine Mountain the day before, arrived at the Atlanta railroad depot. The body was carried to St. Luke's and placed in front of the altar. Here the dead bishop and general lay in state dressed in his gray uniform. Upon his breast rested a cross of white roses, and beside his casket lay his sword.

At noon the little church was crowded to hear the funeral address by Dr. Quintard, who was assisted by the Rev. John W. Beckwith, of Demopolis, Alabama, afterwards bishop of Georgia. After the services the body was escorted to the station by the deceased general's personal staff and a distinguished group of Confederate officers and Atlanta citizens. From there it was conveyed to Augusta, where final services were held at St. Paul's Church. Burial was in the chancel of the church.

Ten days later the only other funeral to take place at St. Luke's was held, that of an infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peters. The child, less than a year old, was named Stephen Elliott Peters, in honor of the bishop of Georgia, by whom he had been baptized.

No services were held in St. Luke's after mid-August, 1864, at which time shells fired by the Federal Army during the seige damaged the building and rendered it unusable. In this connection Dr. Quintard recorded his last visit to the church his untiring effort had brought into existence.

"Learning that St. Luke's Church had been injured in the bombardment of the city, Bishop [Henry C.] Lay and I made a visit to it. We looked in wonder at the sight that met our eyes upon entering the sacred edifice. One of the largest shells had torn through the side of the building and struck the prayer desk on which the large Bible happened to be lying. The prayer desk was broken and the Bible fell under it and upon the shell, so as apparently to smother it and prevent its exploding. I lifted up the Bible and removed the shell, and gathered up all the prayer books I could find for the soldiers in the camps.

"Before leaving the church I sat in one of the seats for a few moments and thought of the dear friends who had assisted in the building of the church, and who had offered up the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving in that place; of the Bishop who had but a short time before, consecrated it; of the Bishop-General over whom I had said the burial service there; of the now scattered flock and the utter desolation of God's house. As I rose to go I picked up a handkerchief that had been dropped there at the child's funeral, which was the last service held there. I wrote a little story subsequently about 'Nellie Peters' Pocket Handkerchief, and What It Saw,' which was published in the columns of the *Church Intelligencer.*[59]

"This was the last time I visited St. Luke's Church, of which I have such tender memories. It was destroyed in the burning of Atlanta" [Nov. 14-15, 1864].

Thus ended the brief, but eventful life of the original St. Luke's Parish and Church in Atlanta, covering less than one calendar year. The present St. Luke's Episcopal Church was organized several years later, which will be noted in a subsequent chapter.[60]

On May 17th, as Johnston was looking for a defensive position near Adairsville, after his retreat from Resaca, an inspection of the troops organized for Atlanta's defense took place on Marietta Street under command of Marcus J. Wright. It was pronounced the finest military display in every respect, ever witnessed in Atlanta.[61]

Two days after the inspection the *Intelligencer,* under the heading "Long Faces," said:

"We are stopped daily on the street, almost at every step, by people who anxiously inquire the news. A large number of these quidnuncs wear the longest faces they can put on, and their pallid looks would lead one unacquainted with them to suppose they had lost their dearest and best friend, or perhaps a whole family of friends. They cry in our ears a most dismal cry. Some of them say to us: 'Why do you publish such flattering opinions about the situation? You know as well as I do that Johnston is falling back, and that Atlanta is threatened. You are misleading the people by holding out to them hopes which will be dashed to the ground. Johnston is being outflanked up there and we are losing ground that will never be regained.' "[62]

Mayor Calhoun, far less sanguine about the matter than editor Steele, issued the following proclamation on May 23rd:

"In view of the dangers which threaten us, and in pursuance of a call made by General Wright and General Wayne, I require all the male citizens of Atlanta, capable of bearing arms, without regard to occupation, who are not in the Confederate or State service, to report by 12 M., on Thursday, the 26th inst. to O. H. Jones, marshal of the city, to be organized into companies and armed, and to report to General Wright when organized. And all male citizens who are not willing to defend their homes and families are requested to leave the city at their earliest convenience, as their presence only embarrasses the authorities and tends to the demoralization of others.

JAMES M. CALHOUN, Mayor."[63]

On the 26th the *Intelligencer* reported that "the Yankees are coming yet, but their progress is slow. The position of the [Federal] Army of the Tennessee is so changeable and difficult to determine that we can safely say there is no situation."

The following day, May 27th, the people of Atlanta were far less concerned with what the *Intelligencer* said, than with what their ears heard. For on that day the sounds of battle were audible in the city for the first time—from the action at New Hope Church, 25 miles to the west.[64]

Some of the entries in S. P. Richard's diary for the first half of 1864 help to illuminate this critical period in Atlanta's history:

"Sunday, February 14.—We have not had the bother of selling Valentines this year as we have none to sell.

"Tuesday, March 22.—The storm culminated today in a heavy fall of snow some four inches deep. I went to the Depository's Office and invested $12,000 in the new 4% bonds to pay taxes with, as under the late law that will probably be the amount necessary! It is a time of perplexity now with those who have Confederate paper money, as on the first of April it depreciates *one third* in value.

"Saturday, March 26.—The McLeans came back today. Provisions are so high and scarce that I wish they would leave us. Flour is $1.25 per pound; sugar, $10; butter, $8; beef, $3.50; coffee, $15; sweet potatoes, $16 per bushel; syrup $20 a gallon, etc.

"Sunday, May 1.—Dr. Brantley was called away by the illness of his son 'Theo,' and Rev. Jesse H. Campbell preached for us in the morning. In the aft I went over to the new Episcopal Church—'St. Luke's' they call it.

"Saturday, May 7.—At Dalton the enemy seems to be making a demonstration. If we are defeated in these battles, I fear the bright and cheering hopes of peace that now animate all hearts in the South, will be dissipated quickly.

"Sunday, May 15.— . . . After dinner Sallie and I and the children rode out to the cemetery [Oakland]. The saddest sight that I have seen is the acre of fresh dug graves that are filled by dead soldiers, the result of this terrible war. Not a blade of grass left growing there.

"Sunday, May 29.—The past week has been one of great excitement in our city, the army having fallen back continually and refugees from upper Georgia constantly arriving. Our forces are said to be in good condition yet and are still facing the foe about 25 miles west of Atlanta. For several days past some of our citizens have heard the report of the Artillery at the front. Gov. Brown has called out the militia of Printers for city defence. . . ."

During this twilight period in the life of ante-bellum Atlanta, and before rejoining the armies in the retreat from Kennesaw Mountain, it might not be amiss to exhibit the military establishment within the city, as published in the *Daily Intelligencer* for May 11, 1864.

CITY MILITARY DIRECTORY

STATE

Quartermaster's Departments.

COL. IRA R. FOSTER,
Quartermaster General,
Office, near the corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets, upstairs.

Capt. V. A. Gaskill,
Leather and Shoes,
Office, near corner Whitehall and Hunter streets, 1st floor.

Capt. J A. R. Hanks,
Clothing,
Office, near corner Whitehall and Hunter streets, 1st floor.

C. M. Welborn,
Military Storekeeper,
Office on Peachtree Street.

Commissary Department

Col. Jared I. Whitaker,
Commissary General,
Office, corner Whitehall and Alabama streets.

Capt. William Watkins,
Purchasing Commissary,
Office at Brown's old stand on Whitehall Street.

A. B. Forsyth,
Military Storekeeper,
Office on Alabama Street.

Jesse M. Butt,
State Salt Agent,
Office, corner Whitehall and Mitchell streets.

CONFEDERATE

Maj. Gen. Howell Cobb,
Commanding District of Georgia and Florida,
Office, Whitehall Street, upstairs, four doors north of Hunter Street.

Col. M H. Wright,
Commanding Troops and Defences, Atlanta office over Atlanta Insurance and Banking Co., near Railroad.

Major J. K. McCall,
Commanding Post,
Office, Marietta Street, Brumby Building.

Capt. Chas. W. Peden,
Provost Marshal,
Office, Whitehall Street, above Alabama.

Ordnance Department

Col. M. H. Wright,
Chief, Commanding Arsenal,
Office, over Atlanta Insurance & Banking Co.

Lieut. John U. Ansly,
Military Storekeeper,
Office, Wyly Building, Peachtree Street.

Naval Department

T. Alphonse Jackson,
Chief Engineer, C.S.N.
Office on Marietta Street, next to Dr. Bean, Dentist.

Engineer's Department

Capt. L. P. Grant,
Chief Engineer,
Office, Lynch's Building, corner Whitehall and Alabama streets.

Pay Department

Lt. Col. A. J. Smith,
Chief, Army of Tennessee,
Office, Marietta Street, near 1st Presbyterian Church.

Major A. B. Ragan,
Pay Quartermaster for Post,
Office on Whitehall Street, south of Mitchell Street.

Quartermaster's Department

Major G. W. Cunningham,
Clothing,
Office, Alabama Street, one door east of Whitehall.

Major J. L. Morgan,
Georgia State Guard.

Major Wm. Bacon,
Chief, Tax in Kind,
Office, over Central Railroad Bank, Alabama Street.

Capt. H. T. Massengale,
Quartermaster, Post,
Office, Herring's Building, on Whitehall Street.

Major G. R. Fairbanks,
Hospital Quartermaster,
Office, over McNaught & Ormond, Whitehall Street.

Capt. J. A. Anderson,
Inspector Field Transportation,
Office, next door to E. M. Edwardy's, Whitehall Street.

Transportation Department

Capt. John Frizzell,
Chief,
Office, on corner Alabama and Whitehall streets.

Capt. J. T. Peyton,
Local,
Office, Roark Store, corner Whitehall.

Commissary Department

Major J. F. Cummings,
Chief,
Office, Whitehall Street, near Alabama, upstairs.

Major F. R. Shackelford,
Post Commissary,
Office, over McNaught & Ormond, Whitehall Street.

Major R. T. Wilson,
Chief Department of E. Tennessee,
Office with Major Cummings.

Capt. W. R. Cox,
Depot Commissary,
Office, on Whitehall Street, opposite to the Post Office.

Nitre and Mining Bureau

Capt. F. H. Smith,
Office on Western & Atlantic Railroad, one mile from Depot.

Medical Department

Surgeon E. H. Stout,
Medical Director of Hospitals,
Office on Whitehall Street, below Mitchell.

Surgeon J. P. Logan,
Senior Post Surgeon,
Office, over Hunnicutt & Taylor's Drug Store.

Surgeon G. S. Blackie,
Medical Purveyor,
Office, Peachtree Street, over Clarke's Hardware Store.

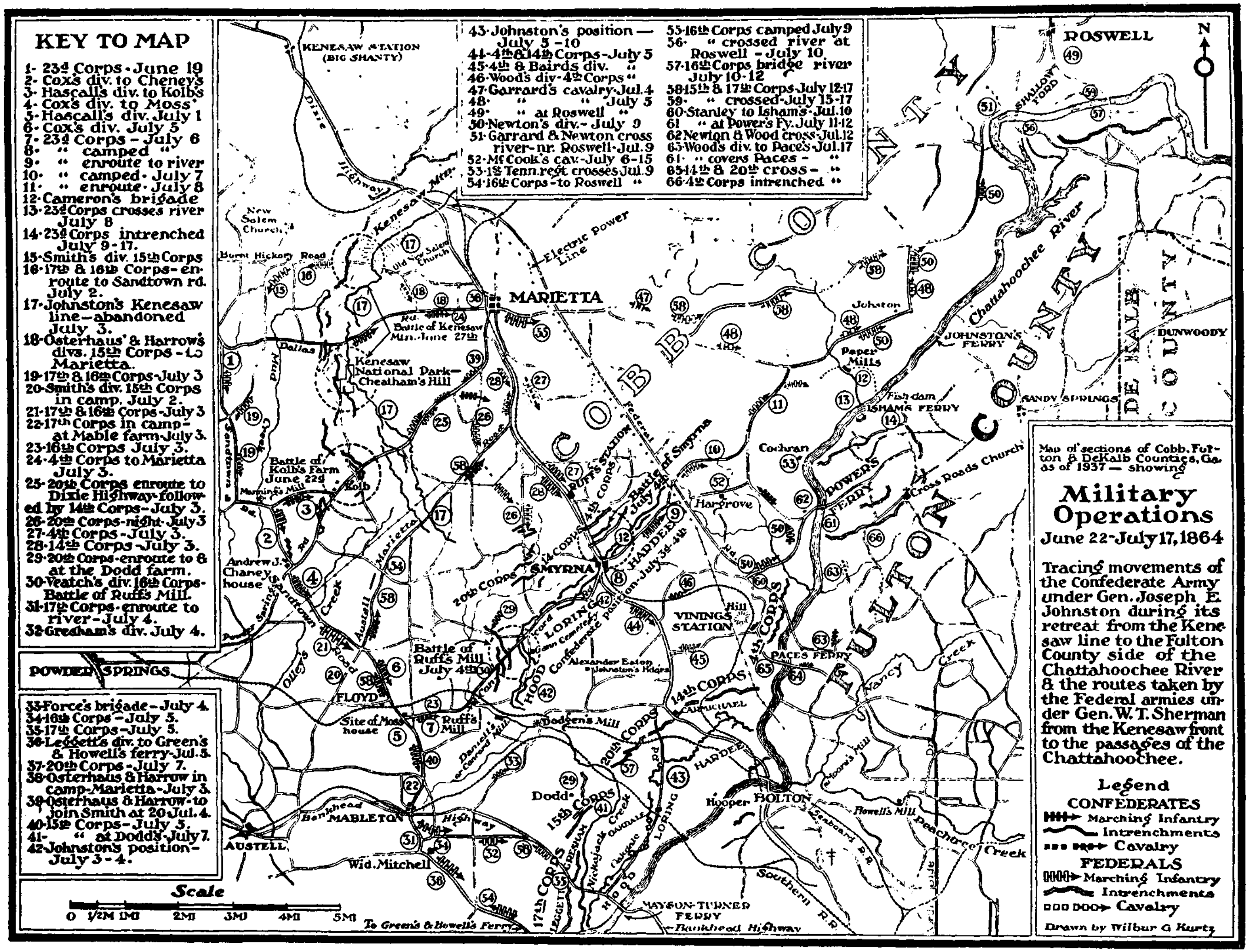
Asst. Surgeon J. F. Young,
Medical Purveyor,
Office, Peachtree Street, opposite Ordnance Office.

Conscript Department

Major G. W. Lee,
Assistant Adjutant General,
Office, Confederacy Building,

Lieut. J. M. Harwell,
Enrolling Officer,
Office, Masonic Hall, Decatur Street.

Col. Sam Hoyt,
Aide de Camp to the Governor,
Office, Whitehall Street, next to the Provost Marshal's Office.


KEY TO MAP
1- 23d Corps - June 19
2- Cox's div. to Cheney's
3- Hascall's div. to Kolb's
4- Cox's div. to Moss'
5- Hascall's div. July 1
6- Cox's div. July 5
7- 23d Corps - July 6
8- " camped "
9- " enroute to river
10- " camped - July 7
11- " enroute - July 8
12- Cameron's brigade
13- 23d Corps crosses river July 8
14- 23d Corps intrenched July 9-17.
15- Smith's div. 15th Corps
16- 17th & 16th Corps - enroute to Sandtown rd. July 2.
17- Johnston's Kenesaw line - abandoned July 3.
18- Osterhaus' & Harrow's divs. 15th Corps - to Marietta.
19- 17th & 16th Corps - July 3
20- Smith's div. 15th Corps in camp, July 2.
21- 17th & 16th Corps - July 3
22- 17th Corps in camp - at Mable farm - July 3.
23- 16th Corps July 3.
24- 4th Corps to Marietta July 3.
25- 20th Corps enroute to Dixie Highway - followed by 14th Corps - July 3.
26- 20th Corps - night - July 3
27- 4th Corps - July 3.
28- 14th Corps - July 3.
29- 20th Corps - enroute to & at the Dodd farm.
30- Veatch's div. 16th Corps - Battle of Ruff's Mill.
31- 17th Corps - enroute to river - July 4.
32- Gresham's div. July 4.
33- Force's brigade - July 4.
34- 16th Corps - July 5.
35- 17th Corps - July 5.
36- Leggett's div. to Green's & Howell's ferry - Jul. 5.
37- 20th Corps - July 7.
38- Osterhaus & Harrow in camp - Marietta - July 3.
39- Osterhaus & Harrow - to join Smith at 20 Jul. 4.
40- 15th Corps - July 5.
41- " at Dodd's - July 7.
42- Johnston's position - July 3-4.
43- Johnston's position — July 5-10
44- 4th & 14th Corps - July 5
45- 4th & Bairds div. "
46- Wood's div - 4th Corps "
47- Garrard's cavalry - Jul. 4
48- " " July 5
49- " at Roswell "
50- Newton's div. - July 9
51- Garrard & Newton cross river - nr. Roswell - Jul. 9
52- McCook's cav. - July 6-15
53- 1st Tenn. regt. crosses Jul. 9
54- 16th Corps - to Roswell "
55- 16th Corps camped July 9
56- " crossed river at Roswell - July 10.
57- 16th Corps bridge river July 10-12
58- 15th & 17th Corps - July 12-17
59- " crossed - July 15-17
60- Stanley to Isham's - Jul. 10
61 " at Power's Fy. July 11-12
62 Newton & Wood cross - Jul. 12
63- Woods div. to Pace's - Jul. 17
64- " covers Paces - "
65- 14th & 20th cross - "
66- 4th Corps intrenched "
Map of sections of Cobb, Fulton & DeKalb Counties, Ga. as of 1937 — showing
Military Operations
June 22-July 17, 1864
Tracing movements of the Confederate Army under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston during its retreat from the Kenesaw line to the Fulton County side of the Chattahoochee River & the routes taken by the Federal armies under Gen. W. T. Sherman from the Kenesaw front to the passages of the Chattahoochee.
Legend
CONFEDERATES
Marching Infantry
Intrenchments
Cavalry
FEDERALS
Marching Infantry
Intrenchments
Cavalry
Drawn by Wilbur G Kurtz
Scale
0 1/2M 1MI 2MI 3MI 4MI 5MI
N
KENESAW STATION (BIG SHANTY)
ROSWELL
MARIETTA
COBB COUNTY
FULTON COUNTY
DE KALB COUNTY
Chattahoochee River
Kenesaw Mtn.
Kenesaw National Park — Cheatham's Hill
Battle of Kenesaw Mtn. June 27th
Battle of Kolb's Farm June 22d
Battle of Ruff's Mill July 4th
SMYRNA
VININGS STATION
POWDER SPRINGS
FLOYD
MABLETON
AUSTELL
BOLTON
Dodd
Wid. Mitchell
Site of Moss house
Andrew J. Cheney house
Ruff's Mill
Dodgen's Mill
Alexander Eaton Johnston's Hdqrs
Electric Power Line
Dixie Highway
Federal Road
Sandtown Rd.
Burnt Hickory Road
Dallas Rd.
New Salem Church
Old New Salem Church
Johnston
JOHNSTON'S FERRY
Paper Mills
Fish dam
ISHAMS FERRY
SANDY SPRINGS
DUNWOODY
SHALLOW FORD
Cochran
Hargrove
POWERS FERRY
Cross Roads Church
PACES FERRY
CARMICHAEL
Hooper
Howell's Mill
Peachtree Creek
Nancy Creek
Moore's Mill
Seaboard R.R.
Southern R.R.
Nickajack Creek
Olley's Creek
MAYSON-TURNER FERRY
Bankhead Highway
To Green's & Howell's Ferry
Battle of Smyrna July 4th
RUFF'S STATION
HOOD
LORING
HARDEE
Confederate position - July 3d-4th
4th CORPS
14th CORPS
20th CORPS
15th CORPS
17th CORPS
GRESHAM
LEGGETT

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

Before retiring from his Kennesaw Mountain lines on July 2nd, General Johnston had seen that he was again about to be flanked. Consequently his engineers were put to work on June 28th, with heavy details of the Georgia militia and of impressed Negroes, fortifying two lines north of the Chatthoochee. The first of these lines crossed the W. & A. R. R. at Smyrna, on a ridge running northeast and southwest, but which, about three miles southwest of Smyrna, curved south, following the line of Nickajack Creek, a Cobb County stream which flows into the Chattahoochee between the old Mayson-Turner and Green and Howell's ferries. The other line, nearer the river, extended from the general vicinity of the old Montgomery Ferry location at Bolton down stream to Mayson-Turner Ferry, where the Bankhead Highway crosses the river.[65]

Johnston withdrew to the Smyrna-Nickajack Creek line on July 3rd but the Federal advance of the 4th caused a further withdrawal on that date to the river line, characterized by Sherman "as the best line of field intrenchments I have ever seen."[66]

Under the circumstances, and with his bloody repulse at Kennesaw Mountain and Cheatham's Hill in mind, the Federal commander decided not to take hasty or rash action against Johnston's river line. He dispatched Stoneman's cavalry down the Chattahoochee to reconnoiter about Sandtown, Campbellton and points below. McPherson was instructed to keep the Mayson-Turner Ferry covered, while Garrard's cavalry was sent upstream to take Roswell and the bridge across the river, that being the only bridge between Roswell and Bolton.[67]

Garrard's advance guard reached Roswell on July 5th, but found that the river bridge had already been burned by Johnston's stellar cavalry leader, Joseph Wheeler. Garrard's report, dated July 5th, is illuminating.

"Captain Dayton,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General:

Captain: I have to report for the information of the major-general commanding, that my command is camped on the Willeo Creek near Roswell Factory. My advance is at the Factory. I will destroy all buildings. The bridge at this point over the river is burnt by the rebels. The ford [Shallowford] is passable; so reported by citizens. I sent a regiment to the paper mills,[68] burnt the paper mills, flouring mills and machine shops. The citizens report the banks of the river high at Power's Ferry and batteries in position on south bank. They had a pontoon bridge at Pace's Ferry, a few miles below, where a portion of their army crossed. There is a road running from Roswell Factory down the river below the paper mills. . . . As fast as possible I will send information of the roads, fords, ferries, etc.

K. Garrard,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division."[69]

On the 6th Garrard submitted a longer report to Sherman in which he described the factories at Roswell, two cotton mills and one woolen mill, all of which, up to that day, on which they were burned, were busily turning out goods for the Confederate government. Garrard cited the fact that the woolen mill flew a French flag but no Union flag, so he burned it. He estimated also, that the machinery in one of the cotton factories was worth "over a million of our money," and that up to the time of its burning, it employed 400 women operatives.[70]

Garrard's destructive activities at Roswell were confined to its industrial establishments. The fine old ante-bellum homes, now a mecca for tourists and sightseers, were not molested.

Sherman's reply to Garrard of July 6th is interesting since it gives his own position:

"HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

In the Field, near Chattahoochee, July 6, 1864.

General Garrard:

GENERAL:—I have just received your note announcing that you have possession of Roswell. This is important; watch well the crossing there, but not in force; keep your main force concealed somewhat. General McCook has just started for some point between Rottonwood and Soap Creek, where he will be near you. I propose to throw Schofield over on that flank the moment I propose to attempt a crossing; fords are much better than bridges, and therefore have the river examined well as to fords. I am on the main road at the point where a branch goes to Vining's on the railroad.[71] Howard is at Vining's and has possession at Pace's. McPherson's right is at Howell's Ferry, below Nickajack. The enemy holds this bank from the railroad bridge down to Nickajack, and seems to have it well fortified. Atlanta is in plain view. Stoneman threatens the river down to Sweetwater. I will soon have a telegraph at Vining's and you can then communicate by Marietta. You will have rest for a few days and should take advantage of all grain fields.

Yours truly,

W. T. SHERMAN,

Major-General, Commanding."[72]

Sherman's message to Garrard at Roswell on the following day, July 7th, is significant since it illuminates his attitude toward the latter's destructive accomplishments:

"Your report is received and is most acceptable. I had no idea that the factories at Roswell remained in operation, but supposed the machinery had all been removed. Their utter destruction is right and meets my entire approval, and to make the matter complete you will arrest the owners and employees, and send them under guard, charged with treason, to Marietta, and I will see as to any man in America hoisting the French flag, and then devoting his labor and capital in supplying armies in open hostility to our Government and claiming the benefit of his neutral flag. Should you, under the impulse of anger, natural at contemplating such perfidy, hang the wretch, I approve the act beforehand. . . .

"I repeat my orders that you arrest all people, male and female, connected with those factories, no matter what the clamor, and let them foot it, under guard, to Marietta, whence I will send them by cars to the North. Destroy and make the same disposition of all mills save small flouring mills manifestly for local use, but all saw-wills and factories dispose of effectually, and useful laborers, excused by reason of their skill as manufacturers from conscription, are as much prisoners as if armed. The poor women will make a howl. Let them take along their children and clothing, provided they have the means of hauling it or you can spare them. We will retain them until they can reach a country where they can live in peace and security.

> "In your next letter give me as much information as you can as to the size and dimensions of the burned bridge at Roswell across the Chattahoochee. We have plenty of pontoon bridging, but I much prefer fords for so large an army as we have."[73]

Concurrently with the destruction of the Roswell factories, Sweetwater Factory, a cotton mill situated on Sweetwater Creek a short distance above its confluence with the Chattahoochee in then Campbell, now Douglas County was also burned, presumably by cavalrymen under Federal leader George Stoneman. At the time of its destruction it was turning out cotton goods for the Confederacy, and was under the management of William J. Russell, grandfather of Senator Richard B. Russell, Jr., of Georgia. The mill was never rebuilt, although its five-story stone and brick walls yet remain standing.[74]

The employees of Sweetwater Factory, male and female were conveyed to Marietta by wagon, and together with those from the Roswell Factory were sent north by rail to Jeffersonville, Indiana, just across the Ohio River from Lousville, Kentucky. Here they were set at liberty to seek their fortunes. Many drifted to Indianapolis, but after the war most returned to their native habitat.[75]

Sherman's final order on the subject, dated July 9th and addressed to General Webster at Nashville, read:

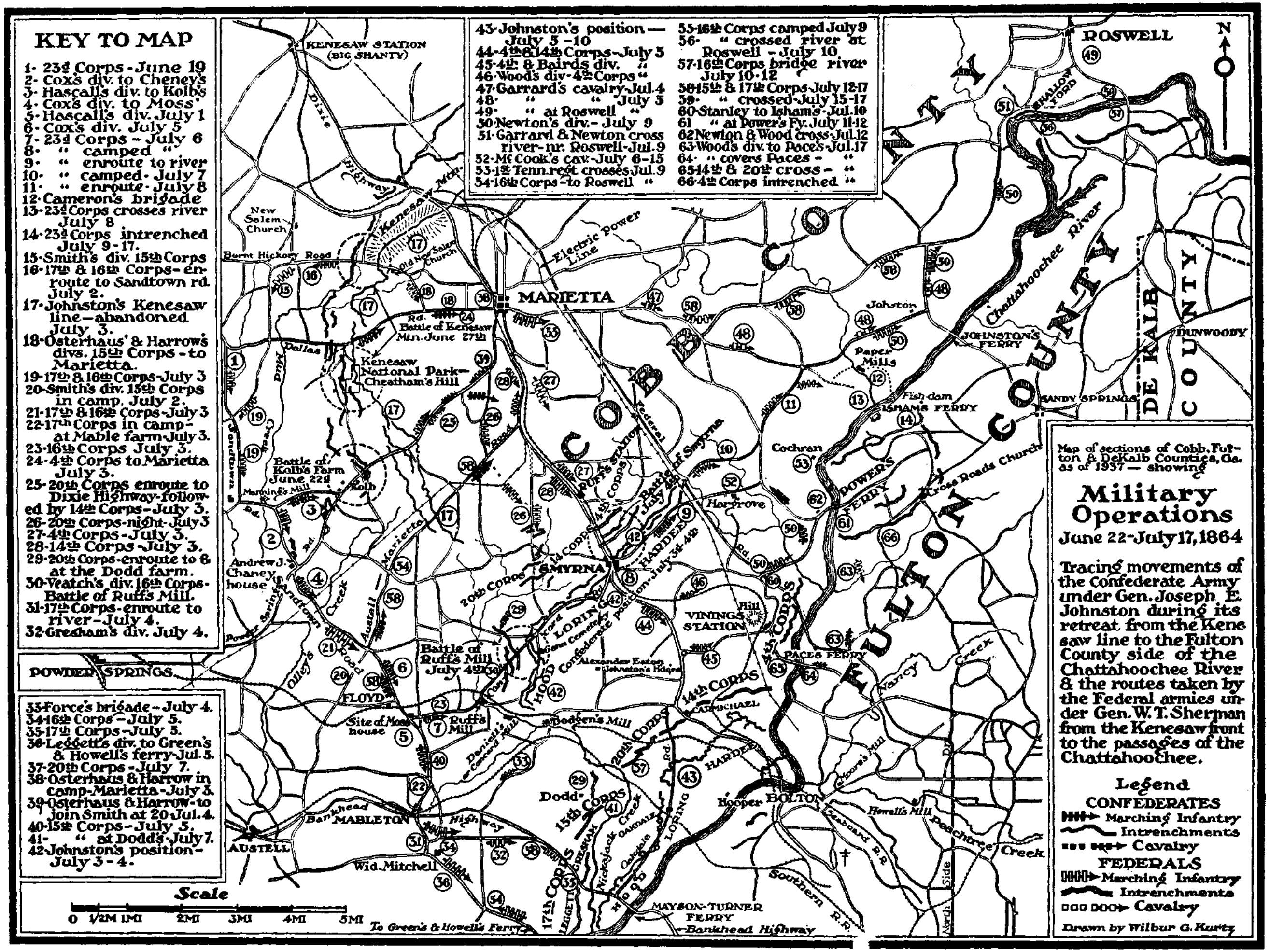
> "I have ordered the arrested operators at the Confederate manufactories at Roswell and Sweet Water, to be sent North. When they reach Nashville have them sent across the Ohio River and turned loose to earn a living where they won't do us any harm. If any of the principals seem to you dangerous, you may order them imprisoned for a time. The men were exempt from conscription by reason of their skill, but the women were simply laborers that must be removed from this district."[76]

Meanwhile Sherman had decided against a frontal assault upon Johnston's fortified line below and at the railroad bridge, and elected to make his river crossings upstream at various places from Pace's Ferry to Roswell.

The first unit of the Federal Army to effect a crossing was the 23rd Corps of the Army of the Ohio under Major-General John M. Schofield, on the afternoon of July 8th. This practically unopposed crossing was made at the mouth of Soap Creek at Isom's Ferry, about midway between Powers Ferry and Johnston's Ferry. One unit of the 23rd, Colonel Daniel Cameron's Brigade of General Jacob D. Cox's Third Division, crossed on a fish dam, some half a mile upstream.[77]

The crossing of the 23rd came as a complete surprise to a Confederate outpost upon a ridge on the Fulton County side of the river. General Cox relates an interesting incident in that connection:

> "The character of the surprise was well indicated by an incident which brought the private and personal experiences of war into interesting comparison with its exterior glitter and excitement. In the deserted camp of the outpost, in which even the half-cooked supper was left, an unfinished letter from one of the Confederate soldiers to his wife was found. In it he calms her fears for his safety, saying that he is now almost as free from peril as if he were at home on his plantation; that the solitude about them was rarely broken, even by the appearance of a single horseman on the opposite side of the river. But the incomplete sentence was broken by the apparition of the crowded boats and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60- Stanley to Isham's - Jul. 10
61 " at Power's Fy. July 11-12
62 Newton & Wood cross - Jul. 12
63- Wood's div. to Pace's - Jul. 17
64- " covers Paces - "
65- 14th & 20th cross - "
66- 4th Corps intrenched "
Map of sections of Cobb, Fulton & DeKalb Counties, Ga. as of 1937 — showing
Military Operations
June 22-July 17, 1864
Tracing movements of the Confederate Army under Gen. Joseph E. Johnston during its retreat from the Kenesaw line to the Fulton County side of the Chattahoochee River & the routes taken by the Federal armies under Gen. W. T. Sherman from the Kenesaw front to the passages of the Chattahoochee.
Legend
CONFEDERATES
Marching Infantry
Intrenchments
Cavalry
FEDERALS
Marching Infantry
Intrenchments
Cavalry
Drawn by Wilbur G. Kurtz
Scale
0 1/2M 1MI 2MI 3MI 4MI 5MI
N
KENESAW STATION (BIG SHANTY)
ROSWELL
MARIETTA
SMYRNA
VININGS STATION
POWDER SPRINGS
AUSTELL
MABLETON
BOLTON
DUNWOODY
SANDY SPRINGS
JOHNSTON'S FERRY
ISHAM'S FERRY
POWER'S FERRY
PACES FERRY
MAYSON-TURNER FERRY
COBB COUNTY
FULTON COUNTY
DE KALB COUNTY
Chattahoochee River
Kenesaw Mtn.
Battle of Kenesaw Mtn. June 27th
Kenesaw National Park - Cheatham's Hill
Battle of Kolb's Farm June 22d
Battle of Ruff's Mill July 4th
Dixie Highway
Bankhead Highway
Electric Power Line
To Green's & Howell's Ferry

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

the hostile line of infantry on the river bank and the letter, by war's strange fortune, reached other eyes than those for which it was written."[78]

The presence of the Federal 23rd Corps on the Fulton County side of the river dictated Johnston's withdrawal from his fortified position north and west of the river, to the Fulton County side. The Confederate Army crossed on pontoons near the W. & A. R. R., bridge on the night of July 9th and the early morning hours of the 10th, after which, at Johnston's order, the railroad bridge was burned. The river crossing was made in pursuance to the following order:

"CONFIDENTIAL. HEADQUARTERS HARDEE'S CORPS

July 9, 1864.

The corps will move across the Chattahoochee to-night, and, whenever, precedence is necessary, in the following succession: Cheatham, Bate, Walker, Cleburne.

First. The artillery will be withdrawn across the river at dusk.

Second. The infantry will be withdrawn from the intrenchments at 10 P.M.

Third. The skirmishers will be withdrawn at 1 A.M.

Fourth. Bate's division will cross at the upper of the two pontoon bridges assigned this corps, and Walker and Cleburne at the lower one.

Fifth. All the skirmishers of this corps will cross at the upper pontoon bridge.

Sixth. The divisions of this corps will move on the road southwest of the railroad, and will halt at the place indicated to division commanders.

Seventh. Major-General Cleburne will leave Polk's brigade and a battery of artillery, and Major-General Walker will leave Mercer's brigade and a battery at points to be indicated by the lieutenant-general.

Eighth. The lower pontoon bridge will be taken up by the engineer corps as soon as the rear of Cleburne's infantry has passed, notification of which will be given by a staff officer of Lieutenant-General Hardee. Major-General Cleburne will leave detail of seventy-five men to assist in taking up the bridge.

Ninth. The skirmishers of this corps, after having passed the upper pontoon bridge, will be formed to protect the bridge until it is burned.

By command of Lieutenant-General Hardee:

T. B. ROY,
Assistant Adjutant-General."[79]

The river crossing completed, General Johnston sent the following telegram to General Bragg at Richmond, dated Atlanta, July 10th:

"On the night of the 8th the enemy crossed at Isham's [Isom's], or Cavalry Ford; [mouth of Soap Creek] intrenched. In consequence we crossed at and below the railroad, and are now about two miles from the river, guarding the crossings."[80]

Johnston thereupon posted his troops on the ridges paralleling the river, and sent Wheeler's cavalry above, and Jackson's below, to watch the further moves of the Federal armies. He himself, proceeded toward Atlanta via the Marietta Road, and halted at a point three miles from the center of the city on what is now West Marietta Street, to establish headquarters and ponder his next move.[81]

On this fateful Sunday of July 10th, as the Confederate Army completed its river crossing, S. P. Richards noted in his diary:

"Sunday 10. This has been a sad day in our city, for it has been quite evident for some days past that there is a great probability of Atlanta falling into the hands of the enemy, and the city has been in a complete swarm all day and for several days. All the Govt stores and Hospitals are ordered away and of course the citizens are alarmed, and many have left and others are leaving. . ."

At the same time the Federal spy, J. C. Moore was in the city to meet the retreating army and observe what they did. He reported that the city populace was in a turmoil; the war had, at last, reached their front doors, and many of the citizenry were departing for points eastward and southward, taking their negroes with them. The army wagon trains had been placed east of the city, and a vast amount of machinery used in manufacturing munitions, had been sent to Augusta.[82]

Spy Moore also gave marked attention to General Johnston's new headquarters. He reported on the 11th, that "he left General Johnston's headquarters at 3 P.M. yesterday; that they are at a small white house three miles this side of Atlanta, on what is called the Atlanta and Marietta Road. The railroad passes near it. General [A. P.] Stewart's headquarters are near General Johnston's . . . saw Mrs. Johnston and other ladies at General Johnston's headquarters yesterday. They seem to be having a jollification."[83]

The house selected by the Confederate commander-in-chief was conveniently located, since it fronted on the W. & A. R. R. and the Marietta wagon road, roughly half-way between the river and the heart of Atlanta, though somewhat closer to the latter. Its present site is occupied by some commercial buildings numbered 1030-1034 and 1042 West Marietta Street and on an elevation across the Atlantic Coast Line railroad yards from the new plant of the Atlanta Paper Company.

In 1864 the white weather-boarded six-room house, with yard enclosed by a picket fence, was owned by Dexter Niles,[84] a gentleman from Massachusetts, who had come south a few years before to engage in the pursuit of agriculture, southern style. He bought the property, some 230 acres, from the pioneer Benjamin Thurman, a resident of the locality since the late 1820's.[85]

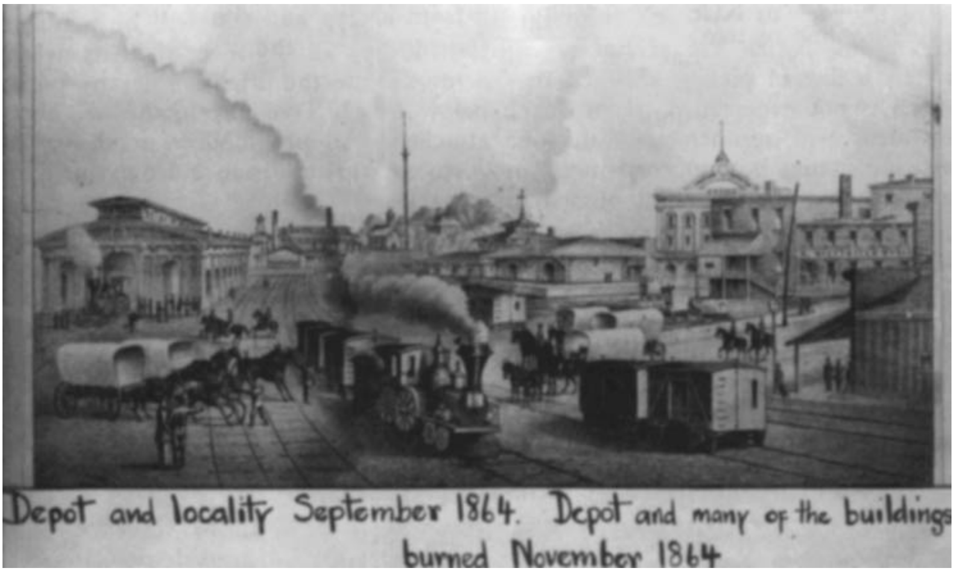
It is not recorded that owner Niles knew, in July, 1864, that his domicile had been selected for a niche in history, for the family was absent at the time, probably in its more peaceful native habitat. Nor did Joseph E. Johnston know, on July 10th, that the Niles cottage[86] was to be the locale of the omega of his Atlanta Campaign career a few days later.

While Johnston was getting established in his new headquarters, his adversary Sherman, was busy with preparations for moving the rest of his army across the Chattahoochee.

Grenville M. Dodge, Major-General commanding the Federal 16th Corps and future chief engineer of both the Union Pacific and Texas and Pacific railroads, was busy at Roswell rebuilding the burned wagon bridge across the river. It was quite a chore, for the bridge was 650 feet long, though Dodge was enabled to use the old piers and trestle between them, which helped. The job was completed on July 12th and the 16th Corps crossed to the Fulton side of the river, where fortifications were immediately thrown up protecting both the bridge and the Shallowford, once the domain of pioneer citizen Jacob R. Brooks.[87]

On July 14th, from his headquarters of Vinings, General Sherman issued "Special Field Orders No. 35," which outline his concept at that time for the advance toward his primary objective, Atlanta:

"Preliminary steps having already begun, the following general plan will be observed and adhered to:


Depot and locality September 1864. Depot and many of the buildings burned November 1864

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

From an old print. Wartime Atlanta 1864. Whitehall Street crossing, foreground Army wagons waiting to cross. Passenger Depot, left center. Rock Depot, Macon & Western R. R., middle center.

1. Major-General Thomas will prepare to cross his armies at Power's and Pace's Ferries, and take position out from the Chattahoochee River, until he controls the country from [Long] Island Creek to Kyle's Bridge,[88] over Nancy's Creek, but will not move the whole of General Palmer's and General Hooker's across until he hears that General Stoneman is back from his present expedition. He will endeavor to provide General Stoneman enough pontoon boats, balks and chesses to make one bridge. He will dispose General McCook's cavalry and detachments of his own infantry to watch the Chattahoochee about the old railroad crossing.

2. As soon as General Stoneman returns he will dispose his cavalry to watch the Chattahoochee at Turner's Ferry and about the mouth of Nickajack, connecting by patrols with General McCook, and will, if possible, procure enough pontoons to make a bridge ready on the first chance to cross the river about Howell's or Sandtown, and break the Atlanta and West Point railroad and telegraph.

3. Major-General Schofield after having well secured his crossing-place at Phillips' [Soap Creek], will move out toward Cross Keys until he controls the ridge between Island and Nancy's creeks and the road represented as leading from Roswell to Buck Head.

4. Major-General Blair will immediately, on the return of Major-General Stoneman, move rapidly to Roswell and join his army. Major-General McPherson will then move his command out, either by the Cross Keys road or the old Hightower trail, until he is abreast of Major-General Schofield, and General Garrard, with his cavalry, will scout from McAfee's Bridge[89] toward Pinkneyville,[90] and if no enemy is there in force will picket McAfee's Bridge and take post on General McPherson's left, about Buchanan's.[91]

5. The whole army will thus form a concave line behind Nancy's Creek, extending from Kyle's Bridge to Buchanan's, but no attempt will be made to form a line of battle. Each army will form a unit and connect with its neighbor by a line of pickets. Should the enemy assume the offensive at any point, which is not expected until we reach below Peach Tree Creek, the neighboring army will at once assist the one attacked. All preliminary steps may at once be made, but no corps need move to any great distance from the river until advised that General Stoneman is back.

6. Major-General Thomas will study well the country toward Decatur via Buck Head, Major-General Schofield to a point of the railroad [Georgia] four miles northeast of Decatur, and Major-General McPherson and General Garrard that toward Stone Mountain. Each army should leave behind the Chattahoochee River, at its bridge, or at Marietta, all wagons or encumbrances not absolutely needed for battle. A week's work after crossing the Chattahoochee should determine the first object aimed at, viz the possession of the Atlanta and Augusta [rail] road east of Decatur, or of Atlanta itself.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp."[92]

Sherman was right about Peachtree Creek. That stream was to mark his next major battle ground, less than a week off. What he didn't know was that by that time he would face a new and radically different adversary.

The Federal commander had been a close reader of the Atlanta newspapers, since it often happened that news from Confederate headquarters at Richmond was published in these papers before reaching him through regular channels from Washington. On July 15th, in a message to General Thomas, he observed:

". . . All newspapers have quit Atlanta except the *Memphis Appeal.* That, I suppose, is tired of moving, and wants to be let alone."[93]

The various crossings of the Chattahoochee had never been so busy, before or since, as they were on July 15th, 16th and 17th. The 15th and 17th Corps of McPherson's Army of the Tennessee, the former commanded by General John A. Logan and the latter by General Frank P. Blair, Jr., crossed the river on Dodge's new bridge at Roswell during those days.[94]

Sherman moved his headquarters from Vining's to Power's Ferry on the 16th and crossed, most probably at that point, on the 17th.[95]

During the same day, July 17th the 14th and 20th Corps of Thomas' Army of the Cumberland, the former commanded by General John M. Palmer and the latter by General Joseph Hooker, effected their crossing at Pace's Ferry. Wood's and Newton's divisions of the 4th Corps, same army, had previously crossed, on July 12th, at Power's Ferry.[96]

Thus, as Sunday, July 17, 1864, drew to a close, Sherman had his armies across the river, and was poised for his advance upon Atlanta.

Meanwhile portentous events were transpiring at the Dexter Niles house on the Marietta wagon road, three miles from Sherman's goal.

Unfortunately for Joseph E. Johnston and the southern cause, a mutual distrust existed between the Confederate commander and his superiors in Richmond, President Davis and Chief-of-Staff, Braxton Bragg. Johnston trusted neither, and neither trusted him. The Fabian policy of strategic withdrawal upon Johnston's part was looked upon with alarm by Davis, and Bragg, who also viewed it as evidence of military incompetence. The fact that Johnston was outnumbered about two to one, seemed not to enter, with much weight at least, into their calculations.

On July 13th General Bragg arrived in Atlanta, ostensibly to make an inspection, but, as events proved, to report first hand to Jefferson Davis as to their pre-conceived opinion of Johnston's incompetence. On the day of his arrival Bragg wired Davis.[97]

"Have just arrived without detention. Our army all south of the Chattahoochee, and indications seem to favor an entire evacuation of the place. Shall see General Johnston immediately."[98]

Had Johnston seen this message, his calm demeanor might have suffered a quick change. He had no idea of giving up Atlanta without a fight!

On the 14th General Hood, then commanding a corps in Johnston's army injected himself into the picture by writing, without Johnston's knowledge, a letter to Bragg, charging his chief with incompetency; that the army has lost 20,000 men without a decisive battle having been fought, and that the present position of the army was most difficult. It is not difficult to imagine what Sherman would have done with a corps commander in his army under similar circumstances.[99]

Also on the 14th, Benjamin H. Hill, then in Richmond, and apparently with some knowledge of the impending crisis, wired Johnston:

"You must do the work with the present force. For God's sake do it."[100]

The following day Bragg again telegraphed Davis:

"I have made General Johnston two visits, and been received courteously and kindly. He has not sought my advice, and it was not volunteered. I cannot learn that he has any more plan for the future than he has had in the past. It is expected that he will await the enemy on a line some three miles from here [Atlanta], and the impression prevails that he is now more inclined to fight. The enemy is very cautious, and intrenches immediately on taking a new position. His force, like our own, is greatly reduced by the hard campaign. His infantry now very little over 60,000. The morale of our army is still reported good."[101]

President Davis was not reassured by the above telegram, and on the 16th wired Johnston as follows:

"A telegram of yesterday announces that the enemy is extending intrenchments from river toward railroad to Augusta. I wish to hear from you as to present situation, and your plan of operations so specifically as will enable me to anticipate events."[102]

At this juncture Johnston had a chance to reassure Davis with a clear cut statement of his plans. Instead, with the cards already stacked against him, he chose to make the following somewhat evasive reply:

"Near Atlanta, July 16, 1864.

His Excellency, the President, Richmond:

Your dispatch of today received. The slight change in the enemy's dispositions made since my dispatch of the 14th to General Cooper was reported to General Bragg yesterday. It was a report from General Wheeler that Scofield's corps had advanced eastward, about three miles from Isham's [Isom's] Ford, and intrenched. As the enemy has double our number, we must be on the defensive. My plan of operations must, therefore, depend upon that of the enemy. It is mainly to watch for an opportunity to fight to advantage. We are trying to put Atlanta in condition to be held for a day or two by the Georgia militia, that army movements may be freer and wider.

J. E. JOHNSTON."[103]

This dispatch must have dispelled any shred of confidence in Johnston that Davis may have had left.

Throughout the day of July 17th, Johnston, at the Niles house, had been receiving reports from his cavalry, watching the progress of the Federals upriver. He was now convinced that Sherman proposed to attack by way of the Peachtree Creek valley, and had determined to drive a column forward and cut the Federal line as it essayed the crossing of that stream. To effectuate this move required the erection of a line of breastworks on a ridge north of the city, overlooking the creek valley.[104]

The night of the 17th was calm, sultry and moonlit. Colonel Presstman, the chief engineer, was at headquarters, having been summoned by Johnston to receive instructions about the new line of fortifications to be erected the next day. A regimental band near the house was giving a concert with renditions of "Dixie," "The Homespun Dress," and "Bonnie Blue Flag." On the hill across the railroad the family of Jeremiah C. Huff, himself away in the army, sat on the front porch listening to the music and enjoying the spectacle of the tented city before them. In this group was the late Miss Sarah Huff, beloved life-long resident of that section and well known historian, then a girl of eight.[105]

At 10 P.M. Johnston's chief of telegraph, Major Charles W. Hubner, late noted journalist of Atlanta, entered the room where Johnston and Presstman were conferring. He handed the former a telegram. It read:[106]

"Richmond, July 17, 1864.

General J. E. Johnston:

Lieut. Gen. J. B. Hood has been commissioned to the temporary rank of general under the late law of Congress. I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that as you have failed to arrest the advance of the enemy to the vicinity of Atlanta, far in the interior of Georgia, and express no confidence that you can defeat or repel him, you are hereby relieved from the command of the Army and Department of Tennessee, which you will immediately turn over to General Hood.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General."

Johnston placed this endorsement on the message: "Received night of July 17, 1864. Headquarters three miles from Atlanta, at Nelson's (*sic*) house, on Marietta road."[107]

An hour later General Hood received the following wire from James A. Seddon, Confederate Secretary of War:

"You are charged with a great trust. You will, I know, test to the utmost your capacities to discharge it. Be wary no less than bold. It may yet be practicable to cut the communication of the enemy or find or make an opportunity of equal encounter whether he moves east or west. God be with you."[108]

Johnston immediately wrote out his "General Orders No. 4," July 17, '64, announcing the transfer of the command to General Hood and farewell to the army. This was not communicated to the troops until the next day, so the date of what came to be known as "The Transfer" is usually given as July 18th.[109]

While Hood advised his superiors by wire against a change in command until the fate of Atlanta should be decided, the die was cast and the transfer stood. On the 18th Hood addressed the Army of Tennessee:

"In the Field, July 18, 1864.

SOLDIERS: In obedience to orders from the War Department I assume command of this army and department. I feel the weight of the responsibility so suddenly and unexpectedly devolved upon me by this position, and shall bend all my energies and employ all my skill to meet its requirements. I look with confidence to your patriotism to stand by me, and rely upon your prowess to wrest your country from the grasp of the invader, entitling yourselves to the proud distinction of being called the deliverers of an oppressed people.

Respectfully,
J. B. HOOD,
General."[110]

The promotion of General Hood produced other changes in the Confederate Army. General A. P. Stewart was assigned to what was formerly Polk's corps; General B. F. Cheatham temporarily to Hood's corps (General Stephen D. Lee was assigned permanently on July 27th), while Hardee retained his own. The latter, being the senior corps commander in the army, did not relish Hood's promotion over him and threatened to resign. However, he made peace with the situation and stayed on.

It is certain that the change of Confederate commanders was learned with satisfaction by every officer and man in the Federal Army. The patient skill and watchful intelligence and courage with which Johnston had always confronted them with impregnable fortifications, had been exasperating. They had found no weak joints in the harness, and no wish was so common or so often expressed as "that he would only try our works as we were trying his." It was now known that this was likely to come, not only because Hood's character as a soldier implied it, but because the reasons for the change were known to be based upon a determination to pursue a more aggressive policy. It was understood by Federal commanders that hard blows were to be received.[111]

The change was not greeted so enthusiastically by the Confederate Army of Tennessee. Most of its personnel was more or less stunned by the sudden switch of commanders. Hood was simply not popular with the majority of his subordinate officers and was looked upon with some distrust by the rank and file.

A Mississippi lieutenant wrote his wife on July 18, 1864:

> "Hood is the most unpopular Genl in the army & some of the troops are swearing they will not fight under him. Brig Genls Cols & company officers have been called together to forestall anything like an outbreak Maj Genls & Brig & all regret that Johnston is gone, Johnston has made himself very dear to the soldiers."[112]

Dissatisfaction was also expressed in higher circles. General Pat Cleburne said he felt the death warrant of the Army of Tennessee had been signed, while General A. P. Stewart is quoted as saying he felt it was the coup de grace to the Confederate cause.[113]

Regardless of these pessimistic expressions, those who gave voice to them fought bravely under the new leader and gave Sherman and his men a run for their money.

Johnston spent most of the day on July 18th acquainting his successor with the positions of his divisions, and with plans for the battle of Peachtree Creek. That evening he was on his way to Macon.[114] John Bell Hood of Texas now held the bag in Georgia.

As usual S. P. Richards and his diary were on the job. Under date of Sunday, July 17, Mr. Richards recorded:

> ". . . The enemy draws nearer and nearer to our city. All of a sudden General Johnston has been relieved of the command of the army and Gen. Hood or 'Old Pegleg,'[115] the soldiers style him, placed in command. So there is thought to be a prospect for a fight before Atlanta is given up, as Hood is said to be a fighting man if he has only one leg. . . ."

While the Confederate high command was being switched the Federal army under Sherman was not merely standing by. During the forenoon of the 17th, after having crossed the river, Sherman established headquarters in Land Lot No. 165 of the 17th District of Fulton County on Power's Ferry Road, a short distance east of the present site of the Cross Roads Baptist Church at the intersection of Power's Ferry and Mt. Vernon roads.

From this headquarters, on July 17th, were issued Special Field Orders No. 36, providing for a general advance on Atlanta. The orders follow:

> "The operations of the army for tomorrow, the 18th of July, will be as follows:
>
> I. Major-General Thomas will move forward, occupy Buck Head and the ridge between Nancy's Creek and Peach-Tree, also all the roads toward Atlanta, as far as Peach-Tree Creek.
>
> II. Major-General Schofield will pass through Cross Keys and occupy the Peach Tree road where intersected by the road from Cross Keys to Decatur.
>
> III. Major-General McPherson will move toward Stone Mountain to secure strong ground within four miles of General Schofield's position, and push Brigadier-General Garrard's cavalry to the railroad, and destroy some sec-

tion of the road, and then resume position to the front and left of General McPherson.

IV. All armies will communicate with their neighbors. The general-in-chief will be near General Thomas' left, or near General Schofield.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman.

L. M. DAYTON,
Aide-de-Camp."[116]

Later the same day Sherman issued "Memoranda to Special Field Orders, No. 36," which serve not only to clarify his intentions, but form an interesting description of the country with which his armies were confronted, to the north and east of Atlanta.

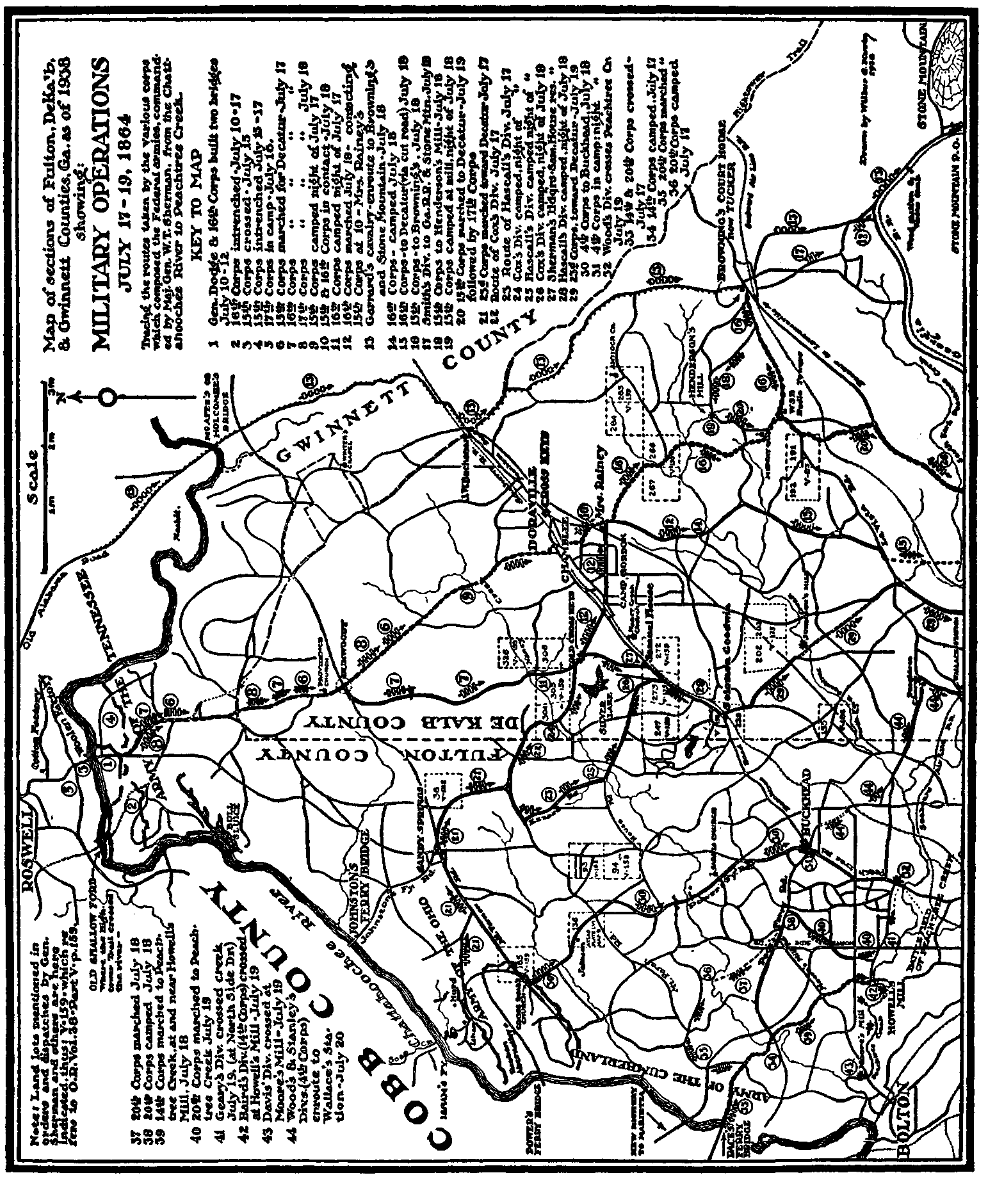
"The map composed of two parts of the official compilation made at Marietta July 5 and 11, 1864, is the best and will be the standard issued from these headquarters. As a general rule, old roads will be found to lead to Decatur, but new roads to Atlanta. The general country is very hilly and stony, but improves south and east as we approach the head of the Ocmulgee. Peach Tree Creek is considerable of a stream, but fordable at all points east of the main road from Buck Head to Atlanta. The first real lines to be found will be on the Old Peach Tree road, which starts at Turner's Ferry, keeps near the Chattahoochee, crosses Peach Tree [Creek] at Moore's Mill and on a main ridge by Buck Head, Buchanan's and Pinckneyville. Our first line must be in front of this road, leaving it clear for communication, General Thomas, the right, General Schofield, the center, and General McPherson, the left. General Thomas will move substantially on Atlanta, General Schofield on Decatur, and General McPherson, with General Garrad's cavalry, is charged with the destruction of the [Georgia] railroad between Decatur and Stone Mountain. As soon as the [rail] road is broken all the armies will close on General Thomas, occupying the main roads east of Atlanta, or, in other words, the line swung across the railroad near Decatur. General Thomas will press close on Atlanta, but not assault real works, but not be deterred by cavalry or light defenses. General Schofield will threaten the neighborhood of Decatur, but Generals McPherson and Garrard will risk much and break the railroad during the 18th or 19th.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major-General, Commanding."[117]

In compliance with Field Orders No. 36 the Federal armies advanced along the routes shown on the map on page 608.

Sherman himself, traveling with units of the 23rd corps, spent the night of July 18th at the Peachtree Golf Club, or rather in the ancient brick house of the intersection of Peachtree and Old Cross Keys Road, now housing that institution, which incidentally, deserves much credit and acquired great distinction by carefully preserving it. The immediate preceding owners, the W. T. Ashford family are likewise to be congratulated upon the same count.

When the general arrived there in 1864 the home and surrounding acres were owned by Samuel House (1798-1873), a native of South Carolina who settled in the Cross Keys District of De Kalb County about 1830. He became a successful farmer and erected the brick house during the 1850's. The brick used in its construction was made on the place by slave labor. The war left Mr. House in reduced circumstances, and, though he continued to live in the old place until his death in 1873, he was buried in an unmarked grave at Prospect Methodist Churchyard just north of Chamblee on Peachtree Road.[118]


Map of sections of Fulton, DeKalb, & Gwinnett Counties, Ga. as of 1938 showing:
MILITARY OPERATIONS
JULY 17 - 19, 1864
Tracing the routes taken by the various corps which composed the Federal armies, commanded by Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman, from the Chattahoochee River to Peachtree Creek.
KEY TO MAP
1 Gen. Dodge & 16th Corps built two bridges July 10-12
2 16th Corps intrenched-July 10-17
3 15th Corps crossed-July 15
4 15th Corps intrenched July 15-17
5 17th Corps in camp-July 16.
6 15th Corps marched for Decatur-July 17
7 16th Corps " " "
8 17th Corps " " " July 18
9 15th Corps camped night of July 17
10 15th & 16th Corps in contact-July 18
11 16th Corps camped night of July 17
12 16th Corps marched July 18 - connecting at 10 - Mrs. Rainey's
13 Garrard's cavalry-enroute to Browning's and Stone Mountain-July 18
14 16th Corps - camped July 18
15 16th Corps-to Decatur (via cut road) July 18
16 15th Corps-to Browning's, July 18
17 Smith's Div. to Ga. R.R. & Stone Mtn.-July 18
18 15th Corps to Henderson's Mill-July 18
19 15th Corps camped at mill, night of July 18
20 15th Corps marched to Decatur-July 19 followed by 17th Corps
21 23d Corps marched toward Decatur-July 17
22 Route of Cox's Div. July 17
23 Route of Hascall's Div. July 17
24 Cox's Div. camped, night of "
25 Hascall's Div. camped night of "
26 Cox's Div. camped, night of July 18
27 Sherman's Hdqrs-Sam. House res. "
28 Hascall's Div. camped, night of July 18
29 23d Corps, toward Decatur-July 19
30 4th Corps to Buckhead, July 18
31 4th Corps in camp: night "
32 Wood's Div. crosses Peachtree Cr. July 19
33 14th & 20th Corps crossed-July 17
34 14th Corps camped, July 17
35 20th Corps marched "
36 20th Corps camped July 17
37 20th Corps marched July 18
38 20th Corps camped July 18
39 14th Corps marched to Peachtree Creek, at and near Howell's Mill, July 18
40 20th Corps marched to Peachtree Creek July 19
41 Geary's Div. crossed creek July 19. (at North Side Dr.)
42 Baird's Div. (14th Corps) crossed at Howell's Mill-July 19
43 Davis' Div. crossed at Moore's Mill-July 19
44 Wood's & Stanley's Divs. (4th Corps) enroute to Wallace's Station-July 20
Note: Land lots mentioned in orders and dispatches by Gen. Sherman and others are here indicated, thus: V-159 - which refers to O.R. Vol. 38 - Part V - p. 159.
OLD SHALLOW FORD Where the High-tower Trail crossed the river -
Scale 1m 2m 3m
N
McAFEE'S or HOLCOMBE'S BRIDGE
GWINNETT COUNTY
DE KALB COUNTY
FULTON COUNTY
COBB COUNTY
ROSWELL
BOLTON
Chattahoochee River
JOHNSTON'S FERRY BRIDGE
POWER'S FERRY BRIDGE
PACE'S FERRY BRIDGE
ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE
ARMY OF THE OHIO
ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND
DORAVILLE
CHAMBLEE
CAMP GORDON
Mrs. Rainey
HENDERSON'S MILL
BROWNING'S COURT HOUSE
STONE MOUNTAIN
BUCKHEAD
HOWELL'S MILL
PEACHTREE CREEK

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

While at the House place Sherman sent a message to McPherson which began, "I am at Sam House's, a brick house well known, and near Old Cross Keys. A sick negro, the only human being left on the premises, says we are eleven miles from Atlanta, five from Buck Head, and a sign board says ten miles to McAfee's Bridge and eleven to Roswell Factory. . . ."[119]

The House family had apparently departed temporarily to a less perilous vantage point.

Sherman issued Special Field Orders No. 37 on the 18th, directing the movements of his troops for the 19th, and specifying how railroad rails should be destroyed. Rails thus destroyed became known as "Sherman's Neckties." The orders follow:

"The movements of the army tomorrow, July 19th, will be as follows:

I. Major-General Thomas will press down from the north on Atlanta, holding in strength the line of the Peach Tree [Creek], but crossing and threatening the enemy at all accessible points to hold him there, and also taking advantage of any ground gained, especially on the extreme right.

II. Major-General Schofield will move direct on Decatur and gain a footing on the railroad, holding it, and breaking the railroad and telegraph wires.

III. Major-General McPherson will move along the railroad toward Decatur and break the telegraph wires and the railroad. In case of the sounds of serious battle he will close in on General Schofield, but otherwise will keep every man of his command at work in destroying the [Georgia] railroad by tearing up track, burning the ties and iron, and twisting the bars when hot. Officers should be instructed that bars simply bent may be used again, but if when red hot they are twisted out of line they cannot be used again. Pile the ties into shape for a bonfire, put the rails across and when red hot in the middle, let a man at each end twist the bar so that its surface becomes spiral. General McPherson will dispatch General Garrard's cavalry eastward along the line of the railroad to continue the destruction as far as deemed prudent.

IV. All the troops should be in motion at 5 A.M., and should not lose a moment's time until night, when the lines should be closed on General Schofield about Pea Vine[120] [Creek] and Decatur."[121]

At 7 P.M. on the 18th Sherman was able to report to General Halleck in Washington that McPherson had reached the Georgia Railroad at a point seven miles east of Decatur and four miles from Stone Mountain. Also, that with the help of Brigadier-General Morgan L. Smith's division of infantry, Garrard's cavalry had destroyed some five miles of track.[122]

On the 20th Garrard was ordered by Sherman to give further attention to the Georgia road between Lithonia and Covington, and if possible to burn the Yellow River bridge west of Covington.[123] Garrard proceeded to carry out his orders, and, in so doing, his men became unwelcome visitors at Thomas Maguire's "Promised Land" plantation near Rockbridge. Maguire's journal entries from July 18th through the 23rd tell us something of these trying days.

"July 18—Yankees at Stone Mountain—water station burned, part of track torn up—great excitement."

"July 19—Fighting at Atlanta—Yankees at the Mountain—folks badly scared in this settlement."

"July 20—We are now cut off and are in the enemy's lines, but I do not feel so."

"July 21—At 12 or 1 o'clock at night the Yankees came here in force. Knocked us up. The house was soon filled with the thieving Yankees—robbed us of nearly everything they could carry off. Broke open all our trunks, drawers, etc. & carried off the keys. They must have practiced roguery from their childhood up, so well they appeared to know the art."

"July 22—Yankees left about 8 o'clock on their way to Covington & to the [Social] Circle & back by Lawrenceville & Monroe. Some by Durand's Mills & a few by here—the Yankees set Rockbridge on fire."
"July 23—Lonesome today—everything still—nobody passing."

Sherman's overall strategy in making his river crossings by his left flank, and choosing the long way around to Atlanta was dictated by important considerations. To have crossed by his right flank below the railway bridge would have left the Confederate cavalry the opportunity of crossing the river upstream, practically in his rear, thus endangering the W. & A. R. R. between the river and Allatoona, his supply base. Besides Grant had telegraphed that some 20,000 Confederate reinforcements might be withdrawn from the Shenandoah Valley and dispatched to Atlanta. This possibility [though it did not occur] made mandatory the cutting of the Georgia Railroad in De Kalb County with all speed, thus preventing that direct line to Richmond from being utilized.[124]

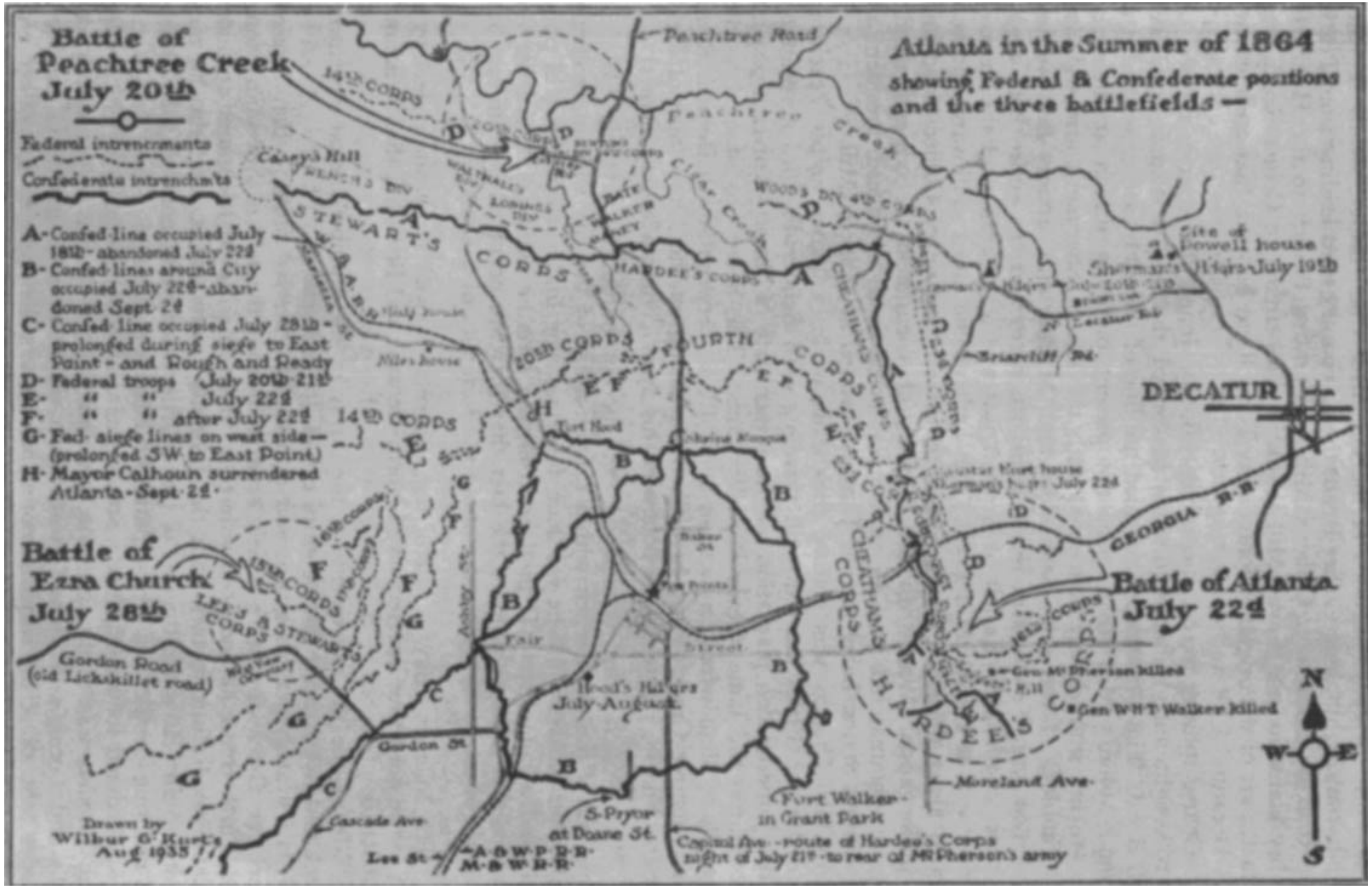
We have already seen that the Federal 16th and 17th corps moved from Roswell to Decatur; that the 15th made a still wider circuit, striking the Georgia Railroad at Stone Mountain; that the 4th had moved directly to Buckhead, and that the 14th and 20th dropped southward from Pace's Ferry generally along Pace's Ferry Road and Howell Mill Road to Peachtree Creek.

In so disposing his troops, Sherman realized that McPherson, on the extreme left, would have three or four times the distance to travel that Thomas' 14th and 20th corps had, and there would be the danger that Johnston might attack the right flank thus presented to him. However, since the Army of the Cumberland was a single organization of nearly 50,000 men, and with Thomas' deserved reputation for military skill and steady persistence, Sherman felt confident that "The Rock of Chickamauga" could hold the whole Confederate army at bay till his circling movement should be completed.[125]

To meet this Federal advance from the north and east, Johnston, just before his removal from command, established an intrenched line south of Peachtree Creek, thus putting a stream in his front instead of rear as he had been doing. This line began at a point on the W. & A. R. R., some two miles from the river. In extending east for about six miles, it crossed the high ground north of the present Crestlawn Cemetery, known as Casey's Hill; Howell Mill Road; the valley of Tanyard Branch, also known as Shoal Creek; Peachtree Road at Spring Street; the valley of Clear Creek;[126] and, at the present intersection of North Highland Avenue and Zimmer Drive, turned south paralleling Highland Avenue and Moreland Avenue until it reached the Georgia Railroad, near the present Moreland Avenue crossing, at the De Kalb-Fulton line. From this point it extended roughly south and southeast to the present East Atlanta business section at Glenwood and Flat Shoal Avenues.[127] See map on opposite page.

During the 19th several units of the Army of the Cumberland succeeded in crossing Peachtree Creek. Howard sent a division down Peachtree Road from Buckhead to make a crossing. Hooker, of the 20th corps sent two divisions to the present Northside Drive crossing, where Geary and Williams crossed. Palmer's 14th corps attempted to cross at Howell's Mill, but was prevented by a determined opposition, indeed all these crossings were smartly opposed by the Confederates, now under Hood.

However, Palmer succeeded in crossing the creek lower down, during the forenoon of the 20th. By noon of that day Newton's division of the 4th had


Atlanta in the Summer of 1864
showing Federal & Confederate positions
and the three battlefields —
Battle of
Peachtree Creek
July 20th
Federal intrenchments
Confederate intrenchm'ts
A - Confed. line occupied July 18th - abandoned July 22d
B - Confed. lines around City occupied July 22d - abandoned Sept. 2d
C - Confed. line occupied July 28th - prolonged during siege to East Point - and Rough and Ready
D - Federal troops July 20th-21st
E - " " July 22d
F - " " after July 22d
G - Fed. siege lines on west side - (prolonged SW to East Point)
H - Mayor Calhoun surrendered Atlanta - Sept. 2d
Peachtree Road
Peachtree Creek
14th Corps
20th Corps
Casey's Hill
Clear Creek
Wood's Div 4th Corps
Stewart's Corps
Hardee's Corps
Cheatham's Corps
Fourth Corps
14th Corps
23d Corps
Site of Howell house
Sherman's H'dqrs July 19th
Briarcliff Rd.
Decatur Rd.
DECATUR
Georgia R.R.
Sherman's H'dqrs July 22d
Fort Hood
Niles house
Ponce de Leon
Battle of Atlanta
July 22d
Gen. McPherson killed
Gen. W. H. T. Walker killed
Hardee's Corps
Moreland Ave.
Fort Walker in Grant Park
Capitol Ave. - route of Hardee's Corps night of July 21st - to rear of McPherson's army
S. Pryor at Doane St.
Lee St.
A. & W. P. R. R.
M. & W. R. R.
Hood's H'dqrs July-August
Fair Street
Gordon St.
Cascade Ave.
Ashby St.
Battle of
Ezra Church
July 28th
15th Corps
16th Corps
17th Corps
Lee's & Stewart's Corps
Gordon Road (old Lickskillet road)
Drawn by Wilbur G. Kurtz Aug. 1935
N
W
E
S

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

reached the high ground where Brighton Road now joins Peachtree. Ward, of the 20th corps, who crossed at the Peachtree Road bridge, swung into line on Newton's right, along Collier Road, then a country road leading from Peachtree Road by Andrew J. Collier's Mill on Tanyard Branch to the Hiram H. Embry plantation at Howell Mill Road.[128] This stretch of Collier Road, was, in fact, part of the original Montgomery Ferry Road between that ancient ferry and Decatur.

Geary, moving across the present Bobby Jones golf course, formed on Ward's right and Williams' division prolonged the line westward to Howell Mill Road. The 14th corps continued the line of the 20th farther westward to beyond Moore's Mill Road, near the present pumping station at the river. We are not immediately concerned with the left of Sherman's army—Wood and Stanley, of the 4th—Schofield's and McPherson's troops—but we are concerned with Newton's division of the 4th corps and the entire 20th corps. By noon of the 20th the left of Newton was at Clear Creek, and the right of Hooker was at Howell Mill Road. The Federal line faced southward and was aligned along the ridge which carries the present course of Collier Road and its prolongation. Ward's division of the 20th corps held the center his right brigade, commanded by Colonel Benjamin Harrison, afterward President of the United States, being astride Tanyard Branch at Collier's Mill.[129]

While Thomas was getting the heads of his columns across Peachtree Creek on the 19th, Sherman, still traveling with Schofield's 23rd corps, then at the James Paden plantation on the present site of Emory University, spent the night at the James Oliver Powell[130] house. This house was situated on the west side of Shallowford (now Clairmont) Road, between North Decatur Road and Peachtree Creek. From here Sherman issued, on the 19th, "Special Field Orders, No. 39," in which he counseled his army commanders as follows:

> ". . . Each army commander will accept battle on anything like fair terms, but if the army reach within cannon-range of the city without receiving artillery or musketry fire he will halt, form a strong line, with batteries in position, and await orders. If fired on from the forts or buildings of Atlanta no consideration must be paid to the fact that they are occupied by families, but the place must be cannonaded without the formality of a demand. . . ."[131]

The following day, a fateful one, Sherman moved his headquarters to a tent at the northwest intersection of North Decatur and Briarcliff, then Williams' Mill Road.

Meanwhile the movements of the Army of the Cumberland at Peachtree Creek had not escaped the watchful eye of John B. Hood.

His strategy was to attack and overwhelm Thomas' units as they crossed Peachtree Creek and were widely separated from the left of Sherman's long line. Furthermore he had been ordered by the authorities at Richmond to make a determined effort to turn back the Federals before Atlanta and this he proceeded to do. He made the first of three sorties on the afternoon of July 20th—the resulting conflict being the Battle of Peachtree Creek.

Scheduled for noon, Hood's attack was delayed until 4:30, at which later hour Thomas was ready. Stewart, commanding Polk's old corps, sent Walthall's and Loring's divisions forward from the outer defense line of the city. Hardee sent all of his corps excepting Cleburne's division. Bate, Walker and Maney dashed forward—Bate along Clear Creek, north of Piedmont Park; Walker, in Collier's woods and along Peachtree Road; Maney, through the tangled undergrowth just west of Peachtree Road. Loring and Walthall, on the left, completed the assaulting front—Walthall along Howell Mill Road and Loring from the high hill on the Jesse Wood[132] plantation, now a residential subdivision known, quite appropriately, as Loring Heights, and through the tangled valley of Tanyard Branch. All was wilderness then, forest covered and trackless, but for the winding courses of Howell Mill, Peachtree and Collier roads.[133]

Hardee had three divisions in line between Tanyard Branch and Clear Creek; Stewart, two between the branch and Howell Mill Road. Hardee's initial assault fell on Newton, astride Peachtree Road at Brighton Road, and the latter was hard pressed to hold his hilltop position. Confederate General C. H. Stevens was killed in this action. Loring struck Benjamin Harrison's brigade at Collier's Mill, and Geary's division between the mill and the present course of Northside Drive. Walthall's men surged across the Hiram Embry farm, where Collier Road joins Howell Mill Road, and rushed Williams' division of the 20th corps posted behind a deep ravine at what is now Norfleet Road. It was a gallant attack, delivered with spirit, and it nearly succeeded at Northside Drive where Walthall's men penetrated a gap between Geary's refused right and the left of Williams behind the ravine above mentioned. Indeed, this ravine had so distorted the Federal alignment that only the stubborn rally of Geary's regiments around his artillery on Collier Road saved the day. A storm center of the Confederate attack was at Collier's Mill, where the road crosses Tanyard branch. Here the 27th Alabama captured the state flag of the 33rd New Jersey, but everywhere along the line the men in gray were repulsed, and darkness closed down on a bloody field, still held by the bluecoats.[134]

At 6:15 P.M. on the 20th, Thomas sent the following message to Sherman:

"The enemy attacked me in full force at about 4 P.M., and has persisted until now, attacking very fiercely, but he was repulsed handsomely by the troops all along my line. Our loss has been heavy, but the loss inflicted upon the enemy has been very severe. We have taken many prisoners, and General Ward reports having taken 2 stand of colors. I cannot make at present more than this general report, but will send you details as soon as I can get them from my corps commanders."[135]

The following day Sherman reported to General Halleck in Washington as to results at Peachtree Creek:

"Yesterday at 4 P.M., the enemy sallied from his intrenchments and fell suddenly and heavily on our line in the direction of Buck Head. The blow fell upon General Newton's division, of General Howard's corps, and on Generals Ward's, Geary's and Williams' division, of General Hooker's corps, and General Johnson's of General Palmer's. For two hours the fighting was close and severe, resulting in the complete repulse of the enemy with heavy loss in dead and wounded. He left his dead and many wounded in our possession, we retaining undisputed possession of all the ground fought over. General Newton reports he has buried 200 of the enemy's dead, and is satisfied he wounded at least 1200. His entire loss is only 100, as his men were partially covered by a rail barricade. At the time of the attack General Hooker was in the act of advancing his lines, so that he fought his corps uncovered, in comparatively open ground and on fair terms with the enemy. The contest was very severe. He has buried about 400 of the rebel dead, took 7 colors, and has collected many of the wounded and other prisoners. Hooker thinks the rebel wounded in his front fully equal to 4000, but I don't like to make guesses in such matters. His own loss will be covered by 1500. On the whole the result is most favorable to us. . . ."[136]

A final count on casualties at the Battle of Peachtree Creek came to 1710 Union and 4796 Confederate—a bad start for Hood in the defense of Atlanta.[137]

On the eightieth anniversary of the Battle of Peachtree Creek, July 20, 1944, while a later generation of American soldiers were fighting in Europe and in the Pacific, a handsome marble monument, commemorating the courage of those who fell in '64, was unveiled on Peachtree Road opposite Brighton Road. This monument, erected by the Atlanta Historical Society, of which Henry A. Alexander was then president marks the spot where the Battle of Peachtree Creek began.[138] It serves to remind us that though the tragedy of that war is long since over, the valor of those brave soldiers who fought so long and so hard will live forever in the hearts of their countrymen, north and south alike.

While the Battle of Peachtree Creek raged to the north of Atlanta on July 20th, all was not quiet on the eastern front. That morning the Federal Army of the Tennessee, none of which was involved at Peachtree Creek, moved toward Atlanta. The 15th corps, under Logan, left the courthouse square in Decatur via Atlanta Avenue and De Kalb Avenue, making their advance astride the Georgia Railroad. They were followed by Dodge's 16th corps. The 17th under Blair crossed to the south side of the railroad and, via the Fayetteville Road, moved southwest. All ran into armed resistance during the afternoon along what is now Whiteford Avenue. The 23rd corps was sharply resisted along Briarcliff Road, and that part of the 4th corps, not engaged at Peachtree Creek, was halted along Rock Springs Road by a division of Cheatham's corps. The 17th corps was stoutly resisted by Wheeler's cavalry, dismounted, which finally withdrew at sundown to Bald Hill, later called Leggett's Hill, where Flat Shoals Avenue now joins Moreland in front of the old Koch home, 282 Moreland Avenue, S.E. Wheeler, hard pressed, was relieved by Cleburne's division of Hardee's corps which arrived at Leggett's Hill about midnight. Cleburne had been held in readiness to assist at Peachtree Creek and his detachment to the eastern front served to materially weaken Hood's position at the creek.[139] Indeed, Hood, like his predecessor Johnston, was finding it exceedingly difficult to oppose adequately an army more than twice the size of his own.

During the action of the afternoon by the 17th corps against Wheeler's dismounted cavalry, Brigadier-General Walter Q. Gresham, commanding a division of the 17th under Blair, was badly wounded in the left leg while ascending the slope of a hill somewhat southeast of the present southwest intersection of Memorial Drive and Eastside Avenue, S.E. While this wound concluded Gresham's military career, he gained later distinction in public life by serving as postmaster-general under President Arthur, and as secretary of state in the second Cleveland administration.[140]

Daylight of the 21st ushered in another hot day. The opposing forces north of the city buried their dead under a flag of truce, while the Federals northeast and eastward marked time—all but the 17th corps at the left of Sherman's long line. General Blair, the corps commander, took up operations against Leggett's Hill where the darkness of the preceding day had forced him to leave off. Leggett's division, supported by Gresham's (now in command of Brigadier-General Giles A. Smith), after a bitter struggle drove Cleburne's division off the hill. Night found the left of Sherman's line in secure lodgment on what had been the right of Hood's defense line.[141]

Hood now decided to take a page from Sherman's book and execute a flanking movement. He would send Hardee's corps on a night march southward to get around in the rear of McPherson's army in East Atlanta, and when this rear attack was delivered he would send Cheatham's corps to assault the Federal front simultaneously. To this end Hood withdrew all his troops from the outer line, to the Atlanta fortifications before dawn of July 22nd. This was to secure the safety of the city, while the entire strength of Hardee's corps and Wheeler's cavalry could be utilized in the flanking movement. Wheeler's function was not only to participate in the movement, but to attack the Federal left-rear at Decatur, where its wagon trains were parked in and about the old town cemetery.[142]

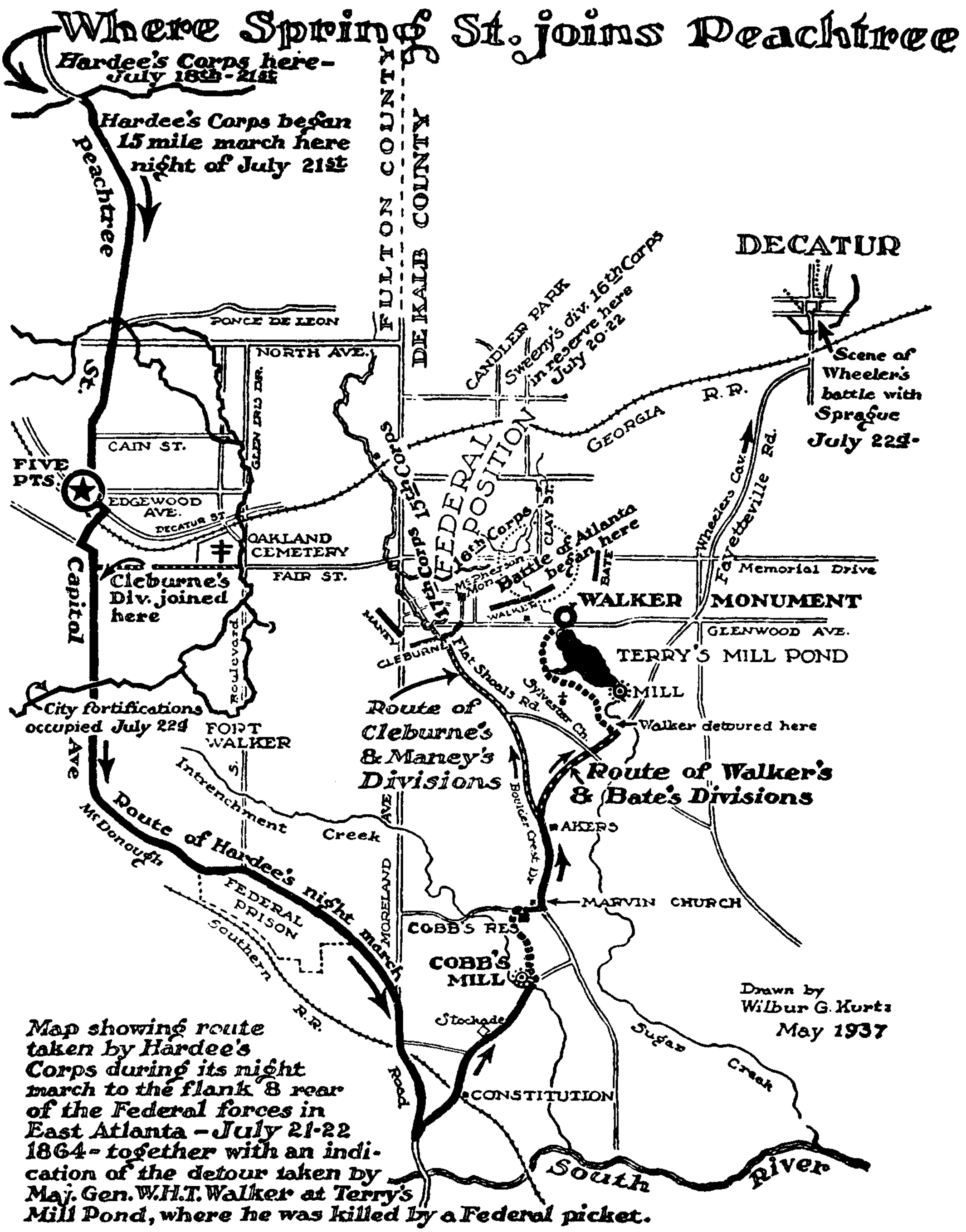
The march began about dark of the 21st from the present intersection of Spring and Peachtree streets and proceeded down Peachtree to Five Points,[143] where the column paused, a fact which gave rise to the rumor that Hood was abandoning the city and the looting had begun. But the corps soon went on by way of Capitol Avenue (the old McDonough Road), marched southward, passing the present site of the Federal Prison, and proceeded nearly to South River, where the column turned back northeastward along the old Fayetteville Road near the present City Prison Farm. Cleburne's division, which had fought all day of the 21st in East Atlanta, joined Hardee's line of march around midnight at Fair Street (Memorial Drive) and Capitol Avenue. The night was hot, the road dusty, and crowded with marching men, field artillery and cavalry —not altogether conducive to rapid progress.[144]

Hood had planned that Hardee should attack the Federals in East Atlanta at daybreak. But what with trying marching conditions and the fatigue of the soldiery, dawn found Hardee no nearer his destination than the residence of William Cobb, still standing near Marvin Church on East McDonough Road, now called Bouldercrest Drive. Cobb operated a mill near his home on Intrenchment Creek, a tributary of South River.[145]

At Cobb's house General Hardee, with several of his generals, including Pat Cleburne and W. H. T. Walker and their escorts, paused long enough to pick up some guides. They had no maps and the country was thoroughly unfamiliar to them, being heavily wooded and with indifferent roads. They knew the Federal position, but not how to get to it. The local residents disliked guide service; it was perilous business, but Cobb was a Southerner and agreed to accompany General Cleburne as guide. Case Turner, a man of fifty, employed as miller at Cobb's Mill, was assigned to accompany General Walker.[146]

After securing guides, the troops moved northward along the Fayetteville Road. Cleburne and General George Mancy, guided by William Cobb, took the left fork at the old William Akers' place, leading directly to East Atlanta over the present Bouldercrest Drive. Walker and General William B. Bate kept to the right along the old Fayetteville Road. Wheeler went on ahead via that road to Decatur.[147]

Had General Walker obeyed Hood's instructions, he would have kept on the Fayetteville Road nearly to Decatur before turning westward. To the contrary, however, he detoured to the left at Sugar Creek and was soon confronted


Where Spring St. joins Peachtree
Hardee's Corps here - July 18th - 21st
Hardee's Corps began 15 mile march here night of July 21st
Peachtree
St.
FULTON COUNTY
DE KALB COUNTY
PONCE DE LEON
NORTH AVE.
GLEN IRIS DR.
CAIN ST.
FIVE PTS.
EDGEWOOD AVE.
DECATUR ST
OAKLAND CEMETERY
FAIR ST.
Cleburne's Div. joined here
Capital Ave
Boulevard
City fortifications occupied July 22d
FORT WALKER
Intrenchment Creek
MORELAND AVE
Route of Hardee's night march
McDonough Road
FEDERAL PRISON
Southern R.R.
CANDLER PARK
Sweeny's div. 16th Corps in reserve here July 20-22
FEDERAL POSITION
15th Corps
17th Corps
16th Corps
McPherson Mon.
Battle of Atlanta began here
CLAY ST.
BATE
WALKER
MANEY
CLEBURNE
Flat Shoals Rd.
Sylvester Ch.
Route of Cleburne's & Maney's Divisions
Boulder Crest Dr.
AKERS
MARVIN CHURCH
COBB'S RES.
COBB'S MILL
Stockade
CONSTITUTION
Sugar Creek
South River
GEORGIA R.R.
DECATUR
Scene of Wheeler's battle with Sprague July 22d
Wheeler's Cav.
Fayetteville Rd.
Memorial Drive
WALKER MONUMENT
GLENWOOD AVE.
TERRY'S MILL POND
MILL
Walker detoured here
Route of Walker's & Bate's Divisions
Drawn by Wilbur G. Kurtz May 1937

Map showing route taken by Hardee's Corps during its night march to the flank & rear of the Federal forces in East Atlanta - July 21-22 1864 - together with an indication of the detour taken by Maj. Gen. W.H.T. Walker at Terry's Mill Pond, where he was killed by a Federal picket.

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

by the large watery area of the late Thomas Terry's mill pond. This detour was made over the protest of guide Case Turner, who had warned Walker about the millpond. After reaching the pond, there was nothing to do but skirt it to the west. Becoming involved in a quagmire during this operation, Walker took violent umbrage at guide Turner whom he thought was leading him into trouble. But for the intercession of Major Joseph B. Cummings, Walker's chief of staff, Turner would have been shot off his mule by the irate general.[148]

Finally arriving at the head of the millpond, at the present Glenwood Avenue, not then cut through, Walker and his staff, at the head of the division, swung around to the northeastward at about where Wilkinson Drive now joins Glenwood. Here Walker paused, lifted his binoculars to scan the ground in front, and at that moment was shot from his saddle by a Federal picket and killed instantly. Case Turner, now thoroughly frightened, whipped up his mule and returned posthaste to Cobb's Mill.[149]

Walker was killed about noon of July 22nd. General Hugh Mercer succeeded immediately to the command of the dead officer's division which, with the division of Bate to the right, moved forward at once, thus beginning the Battle of Atlanta, one of the major conflicts of the War Between the States.

Hardee's fifteen-mile night march and rear attack was not the surprise intended. There had been much shifting of the Federal lines when the latter found the outer Confederate line abandoned. Moving up, they occupied the abandoned line on the east and north sides, which shift put Thomas' line at 10th Street facing the Confederates along Ponce de Leon and West North Avenue. Another Federal shift was the transfer of Sweeney's division of Dodge's 16th corps from the present Candler Park vicinity to the left of Blair's line in East Atlanta. Sweeney was en route at noon of the 22nd, via Clay Street, then a country road running north and south, upon which stood the modest home of De Kalb pioneer Jesse Clay. He reached Memorial Drive just as Walker's and Bate's divisions dashed forward to take in rear Blair's 17th corps on Leggett's Hill.[150]

The accidental presence of Sweeney's troops at Clay and Fair (Memorial Drive) streets was fortunate for the Federals, but most untimely for Hardee's Confederate divisions, for at this point began the Battle of Atlanta. The Federal artillery was posted on a hill overlooking Sugar Creek valley, in which the ill-fated Walker had struggled with Terry's millpond a little while before. For more than two hours Welker's battery of the 16th corps artillery gave its undivided attention to Walker's, now Mercer's, and Bate's troops.[151]

Meanwhile, Cleburne's and Maney's divisions had come up Flat Shoals Road and struck Giles Smith's division of the 17th corps in flank. A furious contest ensued. Cleburne's men captured the 16th Iowa regiment—got behind Smith's line—captured Murray's battery, and for an hour or more Smith's troops had to face front and rear attacks—leaping from one side of their breastworks to the other as Cleburne and Maney hammered mercilessly at them.[152]

It was during this pitched encounter that Colonel William Jones of the 53rd Indiana was killed. The Colonel, a man past middle age, was first wounded in both thighs. Refusing to leave the field he drew his revolver and assisted in guarding some prisoners behind the breastworks. While thus engaged a shell struck his head and he died instantly. Probably no man in the Union Army had known his commander-in-chief Abraham Lincoln, longer. Back in 1828 Jones had kept a general store at Gentryville, Indiana, and had employed, for twenty-five cents a day, the then gangling 19-year-old youth, later to occupy the White House. The site of Colonel Jones' death was in the present block bounded by Metropolitan Place and Glenwood, Flat Shoals and Metropolitan avenues.[153]

Smith was finally driven out and retreated to Leggett's Hill, forming on an east and west line, his right joining General Mortimer D. Leggett's (for whom the hill was named) left, where the old Koch house now stands.

During the early forenoon of the 22nd General Sherman and his staff, traveling south from their late headquarters at North Decatur and Briarcliff (Williams' Mill Road), clattered up to a large two-story white frame house atop a hill, from which a fine view could be had across the valley of Clear Creek to the Atlanta fortifications. This stately residence, shaded by large trees thereupon took on an air of high official significance, for the headquarters' flag of the commander-in-chief was flung from the second story porch, and throughout the Battle of Atlanta, galloping staff officers came and went.[154]

This house, upon which the spotlight of history came to rest for a brief moment, was the country home of Augustus F. Hurt, and was built about 1858 at a cost of $12,000. Henry B. Welton of Atlanta was the architect. It was situated on high ground to be known many years later as "Copenhill," the site being presently occupied by a brick orphanage, the Southern Christian Home, 1011 Cleburne Avenue, N.E. Sometime prior to the fighting around Atlanta, the Hurt family had sought safer quarters and the house, furnishings intact, was, upon the arrival of the contending armies, being occupied temporarily by Thomas C. Howard, who operated a distillery on Clear Creek some distance west. For this reason the Hurt house is referred to in the dispatches and correspondence of Federal officers as the "Howard House." The soldiery had no time or inclination to make title examinations. This fine ante-bellum home, like so many of its contemporaries, did not survive the war. Some time between July 22nd and November 15, 1864, it was torn apart to build shacks and to feed the voracious camp fires of the thousands of Federal soldiers who swarmed about. For many years, up to 1930, its site was occupied by the residence of the late A. L. Waldo, widely known Atlanta insurance man.[155]

During the morning of July 22nd, General McPherson, commander of the Army of the Tennessee, had inspected his lines from right to left, and then had ridden over to Sherman's headquarters at the Augustus Hurt house for a conference. Returning to his lines south of the Georgia Railroad, he again rode to the left in East Atlanta[156] for a final look at Blair's position, after which, at the railroad, he stopped with his staff for lunch. As the meal was being finished firing in the Sugar Creek valley warned him that a rear attack had been made. Hastily mounting his horse, he rode southward, sending most of his staff away with orders. At the same hill upon the slope of which Walter Q. Gresham had been wounded two days before, McPherson caught his first glimpse of the battle.[157]

He watched the repulse of Walker's division in the valley by 16th corps troops. All appeared satisfactory there, but warned by the heavy firing on Giles A. Smith's left at the present business district of East Atlanta, he rode forward to have a look. The narrow road ran through a dense pine forest. One aide, Captain Strong, and a signal officer accompanied him. Passing in rear of Fuller's division of the 16th corps, he galloped down the road—squarely into an advancing line of Cleburne's men. They called to him to surrender, but disregarding the command he wheeled his horse, and a bullet through the lungs laid him low.[158]

Thus died, in the pursuit of his chosen profession, James Birdseye McPherson, not yet 36 years of age, native of Sandusky, Ohio, graduate of West Point, 1853, and a key figure in the Atlanta campaign. The exact spot of his death, marked by a monument, is the present intersection of McPherson Avenue, named in his honor, and Monument Avenue, S.E. The body of the dead warrior was recovered shortly afterward and was taken to Sherman's headquarters at the Hurt House. Here it remained until evening, laid out on a door wrenched from its hinges and covered with a flag. As darkness fell Sherman ordered the body taken to Marietta in an ambulance. As preparations were being made to leave, Sherman took a last look at the dead face of his beloved lieutenant, and finally as he covered the countenance with his country's flag, in a voice scarcely audible, he said: "Better start at once and drive carefully." Late that night the ambulance reached Marietta, via Buckhead, Pace's Ferry and Vinings, and into the same box car where lay the wounded Walter Q. Gresham, was laid the pine box containing all that was mortal of the late commander of the Army of the Tennessee. The body was sent to Clyde, Ohio, his boyhood home, for burial.[159]

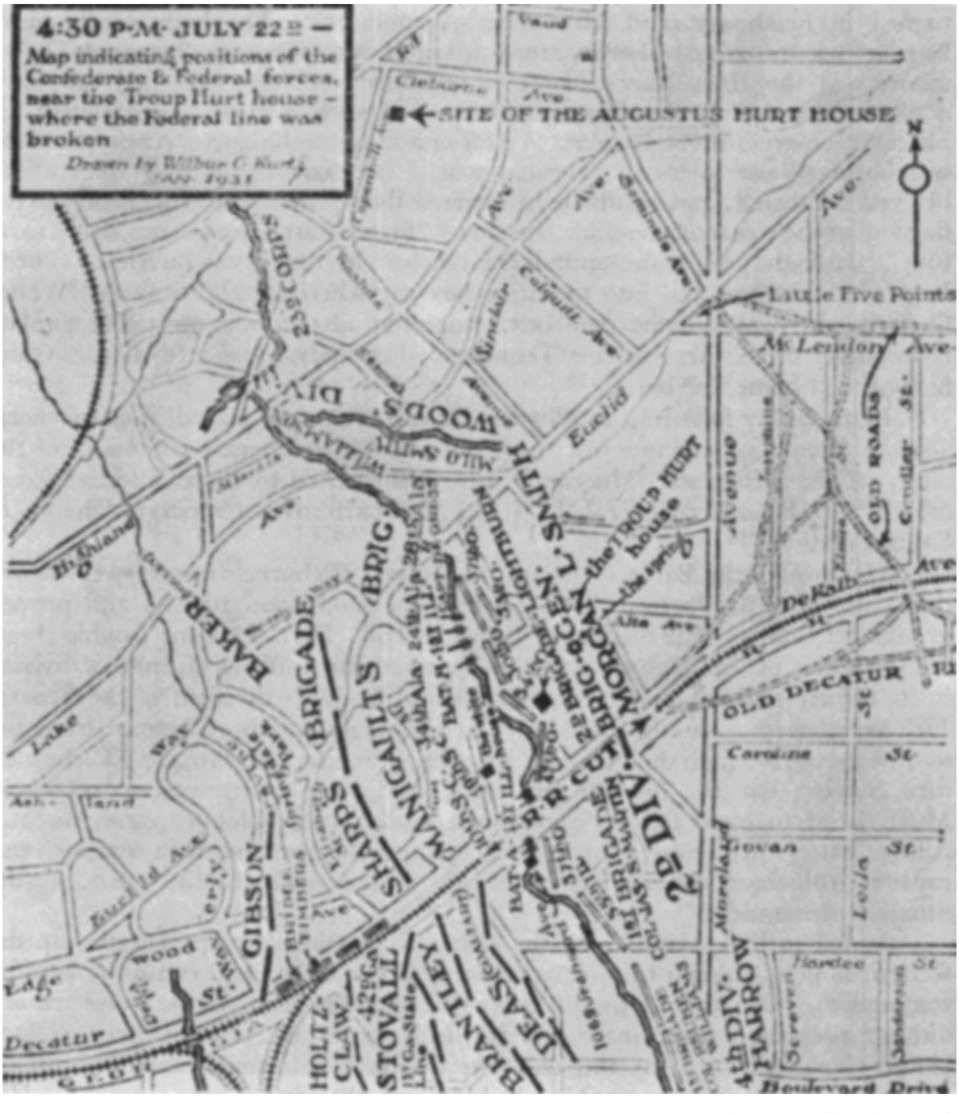
Immediately following McPherson's death, Sherman placed Major-General John A. Logan, commander of the 15th corps, in temporary command of the Army of the Tennessee. Morgan L. Smith succeeded to Logan's former command, and Brigadier-General J. A. J. Lightburn took temporary charge of Smith's division.[160]

Meanwhile, the Battle of Atlanta raged on. Cleburne's troops swept across the road (now McPherson Avenue where the monument stands) and pressed up against Smith's refused line on Leggett's Hill. Here the same troubles beset the defenders of that eminence that had proved the undoing of Smith's division in its former position. Leggett's, Smith's and Malloy's divisions of the Federal 17th corps were assaulted by Maney at the angle and by Cleburne from the southward. The high hill became a seething inferno of carnage. Cleburne's men, having lost the hill the preceding day, were determined to retake it. Much hand to hand fighting developed, muskets were clubbed, and the McAllister battery at the angle made great gaps in the grey line with shrapnel and canister. Bluecoats leaped from one side of the works to the other, as the situation demanded.[161]

Added to this assault came the right of Cheatham's corps, surging up the western slope of the hill from Intrenchment Creek valley, and confusion became confounded. Cheatham's assault from the city fortifications for some reason did not adequately co-ordinate with Hardee's rear attack. It was after 3 o'clock before Cheatham went in and while he delivered a furious assault, his attack and that of Cleburne and Maney failed to dislodge Blair. Leggett's Hill remained in Federal hands.[162]

Up to this hour practically all of the fighting on the 22nd had taken place south of the Georgia Railroad. The time had now come for some heavy action north of the tracks. It was to center around the yet unfinished brick country home of George M. Troup Hurt, an older brother of Augustus F., and father of the late Dr. John Wesley Hurt of Atlanta. This house, so prominently, if not altogether accurately portrayed in Atlanta's noted Cyclorama, stood on a rise about a city block north of the railroad and upon the present site of the East Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, 191 De Gress Avenue, N.E., on the eastern edge of Inman Park.[163]

About 3:30 P.M. the left of Cheatham's line moved out astride the railroad from the eastern fortifications of the city. This portion of the assault fell on the Federal 15th corps front—likewise astride the railroad and De Kalb Avenue (Decatur Road), and posted just west of the De Kalb county line at the present Moreland Avenue.[164]


4:30 P.M. JULY 22nd —
Map indicating positions of the Confederate & Federal forces, near the Troup Hurt house — where the Federal line was broken
Drawn by Wilbur G. Kurtz Jan 1931
SITE OF THE AUGUSTUS HURT HOUSE
N
Little Five Points
McLendon Ave
Euclid
Moreland Avenue
OLD ROADS
DeKalb Ave
OLD DECATUR RD
Caroline St
Govan St
Hardee St
Boulevard Drive
Decatur
Lake
Highland Ave
Ashland
23rd CORPS
WOODS' DIV
GEN. L. SMITH
2nd BRIG.
MORGAN
the TROUP HURT house
BAKER
BRIG.
BRIGADE
MANIGAULT'S
SHARP'S
GIBSON
HOLTZCLAW
STOVALL
BRANTLEY
DEAS
R.R. CUT
2nd DIV.
4th DIV. HARROW
1st BRIGADE

(*Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz*)

Cheatham's men gained the only conspicuous Confederate success of the day by breaking the Federal line at the Troup Hurt house, during which action the 10th South Carolina regiment of Manigault's brigade of Brigadier-General John C. Brown's division, captured, for a brief time, the celebrated De Gress battery. This battery, commanded by Captain Francis De Gress, and consisting of five 20-lb. Parrott guns, was emplaced somewhat northwestward of Troup Hurt's house, with their horses and caissons parked close by. The South Carolina boys were unable to move the guns during their brief stewardship, since the horses had been shot by a Federal battery posted near Sherman's headquarters at the Augustus Hurt house. Late in the afternoon General Logan, who had succeeded McPherson, ordered in three brigades, which drove Manigault back and restored the broken Federal line at the Troup Hurt house. This house, badly damaged during the fighting, was burned by the Federals during the night of July 27th.[165]

General Hood's headquarters during the Battle of Atlanta were at the Lucius J. Gartrell estate, situated atop a hill on Decatur Street opposite Oakland Cemetery and between the present Yonge Street and Boulevard. However, the General spent little if any time there during the afternoon of the 22nd. He viewed most of the action from the present eastern section of Oakland Cemetery, not then part of the cemetery, whereupon was also posted a battery of artillery commanded by Captain Evan P. Howell, later a well-known Atlantan. Captain Howell's battery had also seen valiant action at the Battle of Peachtree Creek. It is reasonably certain that Hood also rode over to the salient in the city defense line at the present Boulevard and Kalb streets for further observation.[166]

It will be remembered that we left General Wheeler and his cavalry about daybreak of the 22nd, as he forged ahead of Walker and Bate on the Fayetteville Road, headed for Decatur. Upon arrival in Decatur Wheeler found Federal troops of Schofield's 23rd corps in the entrenchments along the south and east of the town, in greater than expected strength. Wheeler immediately ordered his men to dismount, and attacking all along the line, his soldiers drove the Federals from the entrenchments in hand to hand fighting. Checked momentarily in and around the Court House Square by troops of Colonel John W. Sprague of Fuller's division of the 16th corps, guarding the wagon trains, they finally swept the enemy before them through the town and beyond the then city limits to the north. The Confederates took 225 prisoners, a 12-pound gun and a number of loaded supply wagons parked in the cemetery.[167]

As on so many previous occasions, however, the relative size of the opposing sides came into play. Late in the afternoon, Hardee found himself in need of help. Calling upon Wheeler for aid, the latter was unable to retain the advantage gained in Decatur and retired from the town. The normally quiet old De Kalb county seat had played its brief part in the drama of war.[168]

Night of July 22, 1864, closed down on one of the most bitterly contested fields of the war. The Federals had fought defensively as Hood's troops had battled for a definite object—to save Atlanta—but they failed to dislodge the Army of the Tennessee and retired again to the Atlanta fortifications.

Casualties on both sides in killed and wounded were heavy, Hood losing about 7,000, to 2,000 for Sherman.[169] It has been noted that each side lost a general, McPherson, Federal, and Walker, Confederate. The actual place where General Walker met his death was uncertain for a long time. The only information available was that he had been killed a short distance west of Sugar Creek. With only this tentative site available, the late Julius L. Brown set up a monument to the General a fifth of a mile west of Sugar Creek on Glenwood Avenue, then an indifferent country road. Consisting of a large Confederate cannon raised on a granite base, this monument was unveiled on July 22, 1902, on the 38th anniversary of the battle. Present for this occasion were two of the top commanders who had faced each other in mortal combat before Atlanta, during the memorable summer of 1864, Major-Generals Alexander P. Stewart, C.S.A., and Oliver O. Howard, U.S.A.[170]

In 1930, Colonel Howard Landers, of the Army War College, made some research in Atlanta which tended to show that General Walker was not killed on the spot where the monument stood. He met his death to the east of Sugar Creek, not to the west of it. As a result of this information, the monument was moved thence to Wilkinson Drive and Glenwood Avenue, in August, 1936, at the request of the Ladies' Memorial Association. This operation was carried out with the full consent of the late Charles M. Brown, executor of the Julius Brown estate. The new site was donated by the property owners and is now part of the city park system.[171]

While the Battle of Atlanta was raging without the city, S. P. Richards was busy within, recording events in his diary. His entries for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the 22nd, 23rd and 24th, follow:

"Friday 22. All last night our city was in a complete hubbub with army wagons and soldiers and marauders, as though the whole army was passing through. A lot of cavalry robbers broke into the store and stole everything they took a fancy to. They stripped our store of the paper and other stationery that we had there, and about thirty dollars in money. Today our last newspaper departed, the *Appeal;* also the Post Office, and every other establishment and individual that intended to go, as the enemy was confidently expected to take possession tonight. But about four o'clock we heard heavy firing and rapid discharges of musketry to the eastward, and before dark crowds of prisoners began to come in that our forces had taken in a successful flank movement by General Hardee. It then began to appear likely that Gen. Hood intended to hold the city if he could.

"Saturday 23. We have had a considerable taste of the beauties of bombardment today. The enemy have thrown a great many shells into the city and scared the women and children and *some* of the *men* pretty badly. One shell fell in the street just below our house [Washington and Fair streets] and threw gravel in our windows. This seems to me to be a very barbarous mode of carrying on war, throwing shells among women and children. The city authorities required me to do police duty, and I had to stand on guard on McDonough St. [Capitol Avenue] from 8 to 10 and 2 till 4 this night, and carried a musket for the first time in my life. My wife and children had to put their beds on the floor behind the chimney to be secure from shells which were thrown into the city all night long. No more fell near our house, however, and but little damage was done anywhere.

"Sunday 24. The foe is still outside and continues to pop shells at us. No church in the city open."

It should be recalled that one of the important reasons for Sherman's move to the east side of Atlanta was for the purpose of destroying enough of the Georgia Railroad to render it useless to the Confederacy. That he had to fight a defensive battle there on the 22nd was but an incident, though a considerable one, to the maneuver. There were two more railroads entering the city still in running order. He would destroy them likewise.

Pursuant thereto, he shifted the Army of the Tennessee to the west side, intending to strike the Atlanta & West Point and Macon & Western (Central of Georgia) Railroads near East Point, from which place the two roads enter the city from the southwest on the same right-of-way. The shift of the Tennessee army began the afternoon of the 26th. Its three corps moved in rear of the Ohio and Cumberland armies, facing the city on the north and northwest, leaving the scene of the battle of the 22nd unoccupied except for occasional demonstrations there by the 23rd corps.[172]

About this time some important changes in command were made on both sides. General John A. Logan had succeeded the ill-fated McPherson upon a temporary basis on the 22nd. On July 26 Major-General Oliver O. Howard succeeded to the permanent command of the Army of the Tennessee, and was succeeded in command of the 4th corps by Major-General David S. Stanley. General Joseph Hooker, commander of the 20th corps, the senior of Howard, and for that matter of both Sherman and Thomas, took umbrage at the appointment of Howard, and resigned in a huff. To replace him, Major-General Henry W. Slocum was recalled from Vicksburg to take command of the 20th corps, though his arrival was delayed until late August. In Howard, Sherman found the same traits which made his association with Thomas and Schofield a satisfactory one.[173]

In the Confederate Army Hardee had sought to be relieved, owing to his dissatisfaction with Johnston's removal and the assignment of Hood to command; but he had withdrawn his request at the personal desire of the Confederate President. Lieutentant-General Stephen D. Lee was brought in from the west and assigned to the command of Hood's old corps, while Major-General B. F. Cheatham returned to his division in Hardee's corps. Major-General W. H. T. Walker had been killed in the Battle of Atlanta, but Hardee's corps was so depleted by the terrible losses of that day, that Walker's division was broken up and its regiments assigned to the others.[174]

To return to Sherman's transfer of troops from the east to the west side, the head of the shifting army, the 16th corps, reached what is now Chapel Road, then a country road leading south from Elliott's Mill on Proctor Creek to Ezra Methodist Church in what is now the southeastern corner of Mozley Park. This modest frame house of the Lord, standing on ground donated in 1853 by James and Nancy Coursey,[175] and so soon to become a casualty of war, has secured a permanent niche in history because of the same forces which caused its physical obliteration.

Upon its arrival at Chapel Road on the afternoon of July 27th, the 16th formed along it south of the present North Avenue, N.W. The 17th camped that night in rear of the 16th. Before daylight of the 28th, both the 15th and 17th corps were moving to position, extending the line of the 16th southward.[176]

To reach these positions the Army of the Tennessee traversed roughly the following present-day streets and roads in the order named: Highland Avenue, Rock Springs Road, Montgomery Ferry Drive, Faust and Bishop streets, Howell Mill Road, Brady Avenue and Bankhead Avenue.[177]

Logan's 15th corps, marching at 3 A.M., by moonlight, moved well down the West Lake Avenue area through a wilderness of pine and oak forests. This corps became the right of the line, extending to the present Mozley Drive, then the Green and Howell's Ferry Road, where it bent to the northwestward and terminated on the high ground immediately west of the present Battle Hill Sanitarium. In moving to these positions the progress of the 15th was disputed by a brisk opposition from Jackson's Confederate cavalry. This was sufficient warning that another battle was imminent, and the Confederate attack was not long delayed.[178]

General Hood had been on the alert. He had watched the Federal shift to the right and prepared to protect his two remaining lines of railroad. He set a mark over which he determined Howard's troops should not pass—the

Lickskillet Road, now Gordon Road, which ran westward to the settlement then known as Lickskillet, now Adamsville. Hood mobilized for his third sortie. He moved his troops out of the city via Gordon Street, then the Sandtown Road, and formed his lines on and east of the present West View Cemetery property. He placed General Stephen D. Lee in command of the corps that Cheatham had led on the 22nd, and sent two divisions thereof, Brown's and Clayton's, to keep Logan's 15th corps from crossing the Lickskillet Road. To support Lee, General A. P. Stewart sallied forth, also via the Sandtown Road with Walthall's and Loring's divisions.[179]

The ensuing conflict, which began between 12 and 1 o'clock, July 28th, is known as the Battle of Ezra Church, and the locality where it occurred has long been called Battle Hill. The Federal 15th corps line, as the battle began, started near Ezra Church; ran down to the present Archer Street at Laurel Avenue, turned northwestward, crossing the high hill whereon now stands the Frank L. Stanton School, and bent around in a fish-hook in the woods northwest of the site of the Battle Hill Sanitarium. Lee placed Brown's men in the present West View Cemetery area and Clayton's division to the right along West View Drive, formerly Greensferry Avenue. The two divisions were separated by the small wooden structures of the Fulton County Alms House, which then stood in the immediate vicinity of the present West View Cemetery gate house.[180]

The battle began along Lickskillet, now Gordon Road, where the present Anderson Avenue joins. The Federal skirmishers were driven across the valley, now marked by the right-of-way of the Atlantic Coast Line (originally A. B. & A.) Railroad, to the high ground near the sanitarium. The subsequent attack by Lee's corps was not brilliantly managed. There was plenty of desperate courage, but the line moved forward in piecemeal assaults—three brigades led off when all seven should have gone in. After the three brigades had gone in, a fourth tried it, and due to a mistaken order, only one of Clayton's brigades assaulted when all three should have moved.[181] See map, page 611.

Logan's men had had no time to intrench. They fought from behind barricades of logs, while those at and near Ezra Church availed themselves of the protection afforded by the church benches, which they carried out and strung along the hill-top. The battle was waged nonetheless fiercely for all its bad management. Logan's men did not underestimate the thrusts that came over the Lickskillet Road ridge. Indeed, Hood's men were doubly urged by the desperate plight in which their commander's policy had placed them.[182]

When Lee failed, Stewart's two divisions came up, but only one assaulted. Walthall's men dashed gallantly across the valley of death, now the railroad right-of-way, only to be decimated by withering fire from the sanitarium and Stanton School hills. The Confederate attack was kept up most of the afternoon. Losses were appalling. But Morgan L. Smith's Division, posted on the sanitarium hill, held firm.[183]

About 4 P.M. both Stewart and Loring were wounded. Stewart, mounted on his horse, rode along the crest of the hill at the present intersection of Gordon Terrace and Cowley Avenue. While in the act of ordering the withdrawal of Walthall's division so that Loring's division could move up to the front, General Stewart was struck in the forehead by a spent bullet which knocked him from his horse. His aides carried him down the road to the present site of the West View gate house, where he shortly revived, but was unable to go back to the field.[184]

The battle was over. Walthall, now in command of Stewart's corps, ordered no more assaults. But a measure of Hood's quality may be had by considering that here was an attempt to stop three army corps by three small divisions. His reputation for gallantry and reckless courage was sustained, if unavailing, at Ezra Church, where his losses were approximately 5,000, compared to the Federal's 600.[185]

During the fighting at Ezra Church and through the month of August, 1864, General Hood's headquarters were on the southeast side of Whitehall Street, at a point where Hood Street, named in his honor, was later cut. At the time of Hood's occupancy the property was owned by the estate of L. Windsor Smith, pioneer Atlanta land owner, for whom both Windsor and Smith streets are named, and who had died in Bradley County, Tennessee, on July 8, 1861. The Smith home, a two-story white frame structure surmounted by a cupola, was doubtless occupied by Hood's staff, although the General himself operated from a tent in the backyard.[186]

Sherman's move to the west side was further guarded against by Hood. Even before the 15th corps reached the Ezra Church battlefield, the Confederate leader was at work on another line of intrenchments, designed to protect the two remaining railroads. This line left the city at the salient at Fair and Ashby streets and running southwest crossed Gordon where Cascade joins. Passing westward of Cascade, it continued across the present John A. White Park, and crossed Cascade near Venetian Drive. South of Cascade it crossed the Campbelltown Road, and ultimately encircled East Point in a sort of fishhook curve.[187] Several segments of this line and those of the Federal line opposing it are still visible along Cascade Avenue, Beecher Street, Sewell Road, in the John White Park, and in Greenwood Cemetery.

Following the Battle of Ezra Church Sherman began in earnest to shell Atlanta with siege artillery, and to probe Hood's newly constructed long red earth line for a weak spot, so as to break through and destroy the two lines of railroad upon which Hood depended. To the right of Howard's Army of the Tennessee Sherman shifted two army corps, the 14th, commanded by John M. Palmer, and the 23rd, under John M. Schofield.[188]

With these additional troops a Federal drive began on August 4th. The north fork of Utoy Creek had to be crossed in the face of Confederate skirmishers, and a left wheel toward the John White Park sector of the Confederate line made. Palmer, the senior of Schofield, finding himself subject to orders from the latter, bluntly asked his superior, Thomas, if he should turn his troops over to Schofield. Thomas replied by requesting Palmer to cooperate, and Sherman issued a formal written order to him to take orders from and report to Schofield. The result of this dispute, which lasted all day and into the night, was to delay the drive planned for the 4th. It also terminated in the resignation of Palmer and his replacement by Brevet Major-General Jefferson C. Davis.[189]

On the 5th Schofield threw up intrenched lines on both sides of Sewell Road. Facing Schofield's troops was Bate's division of Hardee's corps, who occupied a ridge southward of Cascade (Sandtown) Road, in a triangular area bounded by that road, the Willis Mill Road, and the south fork of Utoy Creek. Between the opposing lines lay the coveted Sandtown Road and a small valley watered by a Utoy Creek tributary. On the 6th Schofield's corps, consisting of Cox's and Hascall's divisions, charged across the Sandtown (now Cascade) Road, but Bate's entanglements proved too much for them. Hascall then moved by the right flank, and on ground near the present Cascade Springs pushed eastward against Bate's left. The latter decided upon a strategic withdrawal to the main Confederate line, which was made that night.[190]

After the affair with Bate, Sherman risked no more assaults. His tactics, until August 25th, were to creep up under cover of darkness—to push his entrenchments closer to the city fortifications—to shell the city, and all the while to reach forward to the southwest for the coveted railroads.

While many of the families living in the country around Atlanta refugeed to safer climes upon the advent of the contesting armies, by no means all did so. Indeed, their unwillingness to abandon their homes was natural, for all they had was there, and to leave it was to be beggared. Consequently, a number of families resorted to home-made bombproofs near their houses.

One such family was that of Joseph Willis (1812-1875), a pioneer settler of the Utoy Church neighborhood and the owner of Land Lot No. 200 of the 14th District of Fulton County, upon which he lived, farmed and operated Willis' Mill on South Utoy Creek. This property lay between the old Sandtown (Cascade) Road and Campbellton Road, and is at present traversed from north to south by Willis Mill Road and Dodson Drive.[191]

In early August, 1864, citizen Willis found his peaceful acres overrun with troops of the 23rd corps pushing against Hood's long line to East Point and with Hardee's and Bate's men defending it. However, Willis had foreseen the inevitable, and by the time his land became a battleground, had, with the help of neighbors, built a bombproof some ten paces from his log home. This emergency retreat was excavated on a hillside, and was covered with a roof of timbers covered by several feet of earth, and by pine boughs to keep the earth from washing. It contained a room fifteen feet square by six feet high.[192]

During most of August this small subterranean room was occupied by twenty-six men, women and children, including the families of Joseph Willis, William W. White and Laban Helms. The men, all in or past middle age, ventured up occasionally for a little air behind the breastworks. One can imagine the discomforts experienced by this group who clung desperately to home, buoyed by the certainty that the armies would eventually pass on and leave them in comparative peace again. The last survivor of the bombproof occupants was the late Dr. John W. White, son of Francis M. and grandson of William W. White. Dr. White, then an infant, devoted a long life to the practice of medicine in the Oakland City section, and died in July, 1951, aged 87.[193]

The City of Atlanta was neither a comfortable nor desirable spot to be in during August of 1864. To those citizens who remained throughout the siege it was doubtless the nearest thing to hell on earth they ever experienced, before or later.

The first shell, a harbinger of the murderous rain that was to fall in Atlanta, struck at the corner of Ellis and Ivy streets on Wednesday, July 20th, the day of the Battle of Peachtree Creek. It resulted in one of the saddest fatalities of which war is capable—the death of a little child. Two other shells fell in the same vicinity that day.[194]

From July 20th to August 9th the city was subject to light shelling during which period the citizens went about their daily affairs with little precaution against the ever present danger, though the prudent kept away from the railroads, church spires and tall chimneys, all of which served as prime targets for the Federal gunners.

During the entire period of bombardment most of the shells came from 20th corps batteries along what is now 8th Street, N.W., on high ground near Howell Mill Road, and from 16th corps guns on an elevation just north of the present Florence Crittenden Home for Girls on Simpson Street west of Ashby. General Sherman's headquarters during the period of the siege were in the field at a point a little south of Bankhead Highway and west of the present Maddox Park—probably on the ridge traversed by Chapel Road.[195]

By August 9th, when Sherman's troops reached a stalemate on the west side in their effort to reach the railroads, the tempo of the bombardment was markedly increased. Most of the tenanted houses in the city had been provided with dugouts in their yards, similar to cyclone cellars in the mid-west, and it was a foolhardy person who ventured far from this protection.

The following message from Sherman to General Thomas, dated August 10, 1864, will indicate what was on the former's mind:

> "I hear Brannan's guns at Geary's battery,[196] and hear the shells burst in Atlanta. Send word to the battery to work all night and not limit themselves to 5-minute guns, but to fire slowly and steadily each gun as it is ready; also order the gun on Williams' front to be got ready and put to work with similar orders tonight. Howard will get his 20s near the same point, which he pronounces much better than that at Geary's, which he visited with me today. Williams' right and Howard's left are on Proctor's Creek, from which you look up the valley to what seems the heart of Atlanta, the ridge on which are the railroad and White Hall being plainly visible, as also that by which the Marietta Road enters the town, the intervening angle being cleared ground giving a fine field of fire. I think the 4½-inch gun on Williams' right can demolish the big engine-house."[197]

This message was the prelude to the great artillery duel described by Wallace P. Reed:[198]

> "If any one day of the siege was worse than all the others, it was that red day in August, when all the fires of hell, and all the thunders of the universe seemed to be blazing and roaring over Atlanta. It was about the middle of the month, and everything had been comparatively quiet for a few days, when one fine morning, about breakfast time, a big siege gun belched forth a sheet of flame with a sullen boom from a Federal battery on the north side of the city. The Confederates had an immense gun on Peachtree Street, one so large and heavy that it had taken three days to drag it to its position. This monster lost no time in replying to its noisy challenger, and then the duel opened all along the lines on the north and west. Ten Confederate and eleven Federal batteries took part in the engagement. On Peachtree, where Kimball [Ponce de Leon] intersects, the big gun of the Confederates put in its best work, but only to draw a hot fire from the enemy. Shot and shell rained in every direction. Great volumes of sulphurous smoke rolled over the town, trailing down to the ground, and through this stifling gloom the sun glared down like a great red eye peering through a bronze colored cloud.
>
> "It was on this day of horrors that the destruction of human life was greatest among the citizens. A shell crashed into a house on the corner of Elliott and Rhodes streets. The explosion killed Mr. Warner, the superintendent of the gas company and his six-year-old daughter. Both were lying on a bed side by side at the time. Their bodies were frightfully mangled and they died instantly, perhaps without knowing what had killed them. A woman who was

ironing some clothes in a house on Pryor Street between the Methodist Church [Wesley Chapel] and Wheat Street [Auburn Avenue], was struck by a shell and killed. Solomon Luckie, a well-known [Negro] barber, was standing on the James Bank corner at Whitehall and Alabama, when a shell struck a lamppost, ricocheted, and exploded. A fragment struck Luckie and knocked him down. Mr. Tom Crusselle and one or two other citizens picked up the unfortunate man and carried him into a store. He was then taken to the Atlanta Medical College where Dr. [Noel] D'Alvigny amputated his leg. The poor fellow was put under the influence of morphine, but he never rallied from the shock and died in a few hours.

"A young lady who was on her way to the car shed was struck in the back and fatally wounded. On Forsyth Street a Confederate officer was standing in the front yard, taking leave of the lady of the house, when a bursting shell mortally wounded him and the lady's little boy. The two victims were laid side by side on the grass under the trees, and in a few minutes they both bled to death."

The lamp post by which Solomon Luckie was standing when fatally injured, scarred and battered was, until 1880, kept in the City Hall as a memento of the war. In that year, by resolution of Council, it was restored to its original site at the northeast corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets, where it still stands. On October 26, 1919, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, interested in marking historic spots in Atlanta, placed a bronze tablet on the post and dedicated it to the memory of General A. J. West, prominent Atlantan and Confederate veteran.[199] In December, 1939, upon the occasion of the world premiere of the motion picture *Gone With the Wind,* the old post, one of the original 50 that first lighted Atlanta's streets on Christmas, 1855, was again lighted with gas, through the courtesy of the Atlanta Gas Light Company, and remains as an "Eternal Flame of the Confederacy."

Atlanta's volunteer fire department had a tough and perilous time of it during the siege. While exempt from conscription, the firemen found it fully as dangerous to go to a fire as it was to go to the front. Many of the larger fires set by shells broke out at night, and the flames and glare formed easy targets for the Federal gunners. Consequently the firemen had to do their work in a shower of shells. However, they all stuck to their posts, doing the best they could, and it is pleasant to record that not one was killed.[200]

Among the citizens of Atlanta, before and during the siege, were many Union sympathizers. They were generally people of Northern birth and rearing, but there were also a number of German-born citizens and native Southerners who were strongly attached to the old flag.

In the hot-blooded excitement of the hour, it was natural that Confederate sympathizers should watch all suspected persons with a sleepless, and to the suspects, an annoying vigilance. James L. Dunning, a native of Litchfield, Connecticut, and an old and highly respected citizen, made no concealment of his views. He was superintendent of the Atlanta Machine Company at the corner of the Georgia Railroad and King Street, and flatly refused to take any Confederate contracts. He was forced to dispose of his business to persons who were loyal to the Confederacy, but even then was not allowed to go his way in peace. He was arrested by the military authorities and kept a prisoner for weeks. He did not know whether he would be exiled, shot or lynched, but he never wavered. He frankly avowed his Union sentiments, but said that he would obey the laws, and take no active part in aiding the Federals. Finding that the prisoner would neither be converted nor bulldozed, the authorities released Mr. Dunning. But a thousand eyes watched his movements, and a thousand ears were on the alert for some indiscreet expression of opinion.[201]

The Messrs. William Markham and Lewis Schofield, proprietors of the Atlanta Rolling Mill, and likewise natives of Connecticut, were strongly suspected of disloyalty. But these gentlemen made themselves so agreeable in a social way, and helped the Confederacy so much with their rolling mill, that it was thought best to let them alone. Once, however, a Georgia colonel, who was a little too much under the influence of patriotism and corn whiskey, drew his knife and attacked Mr. Markham as the latter was driving along a back street in his buggy. Resistance under the circumstances would have been a fatal mistake. So Markham simply whipped up his horse and was soon beyond reach of his assailant.[202]

Calmer times and the passing years gave abundant evidence of the value of all three of these citizens to the community. They accomplished considerably more in its rehabilitation than did some of the over zealous patriots by whom they were suspected and persecuted.

Another incident will serve to illustrate the trigger-happy feelings of the times.

A Mississippi soldier, hunting for something to read in one of the bookstores, found a copy of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in a drawer. He quietly left the store, and told a citizen friend that he was going to collect his comrades and then tar and feather the bookseller and wreck his stock. The citizen knew the bookseller to be a good man and determined to save him. He rushed to the store and gave the merchant a hint of what was coming. When the Mississippi delegation called, the objectionable book could not be found and the soldier who made himself so active in the matter was dumbfounded. The proprietor of the store took it coolly, and said that the drawer had been filled with old rubbish by his clerks years before, and had not been opened since. If there had been a copy of *Uncle Tom* in it, he was not aware of it. After a brief consultation, the disappointed soldiers decided that they had no case and left in disgust.[203]

While the shelling of Atlanta was in progress, General Hood addressed several letters of protest to General Sherman relative to the bombardment of the town. He called the Federal commander's attention to the fact that there were thousands of non-combatants in the city, including women and children, who had not been able to or would not refugee, and whose lives were in deadly peril from a bombardment that the situation of Atlanta's defenses did not justify. He told Sherman that the defense line was a mile from town, on all sides, and that the destroying of it ought not to involve the destruction of private property to any great extent, or the taking of innocent lives. Hood pointed out that the deliberate bombardment of Atlanta was unwarranted by the usages of civilized warfare and barbarous in the extreme.[204]

Sherman replied in a harsh vein. He reminded Hood, as a professional soldier, that he well knew that war was the very science of barbarism, and that its object did not end with the killing, maiming and capturing of an armed enemy. It has also, Sherman declared, to desolate and devastate the enemy's country, rendering it unfit for human habitation by destroying the means of sustenance and shelter. He explained that Atlanta, the general principles of war aside, could not be classed as a peaceable community peopled by non-combatants, but was one of the enemy's chief military depots and manufactories of the equipments of war. He said further that women, children and old men had no business in such a place, and that if they were there, Hood was responsible for their presence, and must accept the responsibility for their safety. Sherman charged his antagonist with cowardice in seeking the shelter of a city full of defenseless non-combatants, and then appealing to his enemy for mercy for them. He took the position that Hood knew he was conducting an unjustifiable and hopeless struggle, and was well aware that Atlanta could not be successfully defended against the Federal army. In closing, by saying that he loved the South as an integral part of the union of states, Sherman seemed to regard himself as an instrument in the hand of the Almighty, sent to chastise a forward and erring people and turn them from following after false leaders and prophets.[205]

The bombardment continued until the Federal commander, in his own good time, decided upon other tactics to gain the desired objective.

Some of S. P. Richards' diary entries for August, 1864, serve to illuminate that trying period for us. They follow:

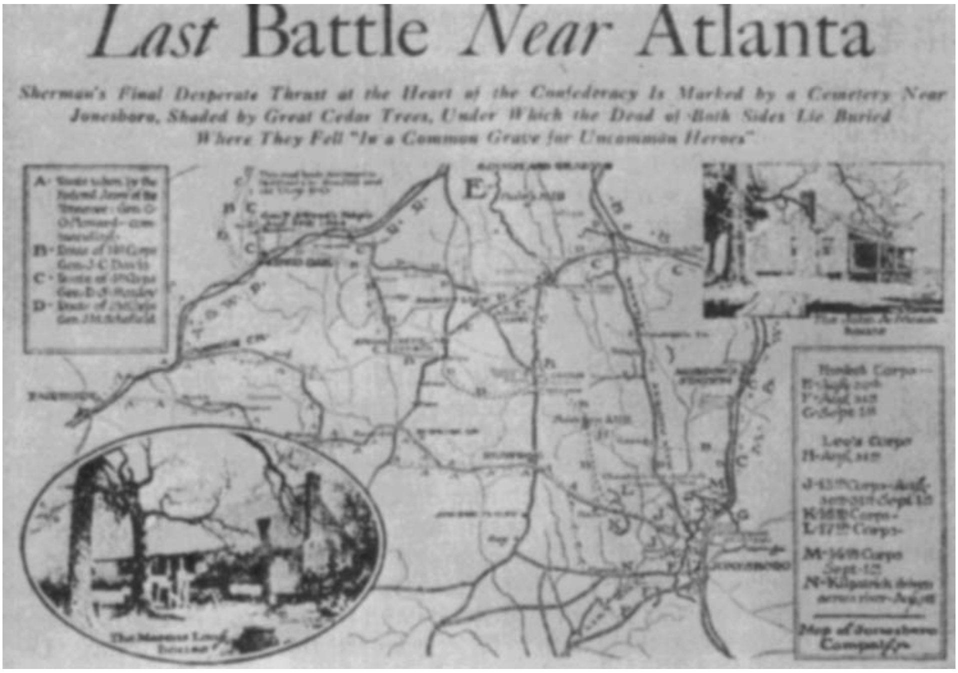
"Monday 1—Nothing of much importance has transpired during the week that we are aware of.[206] We have had shelling semi-occasionally but thus far none of the deadly missiles have reached our house and we could look upon them at a safe distance with composure. For fear that they should ever reach us I have done several days' hard work preparing a 'pit' in our cellar to retreat to for shelter. One [shell] pierced the top cornice of our store and went into Beach & Root's building opposite. . . . Our garden is helping us out a great deal these hard times. We have not suffered much from thieves and have given away such 'truck' as we did not need. Corn, tomatoes and butterbeans are now in full feather. . . . Yesterday, the Lord's Day, not a Protestant church was open; all the ministers have forsaken their posts except the Catholic, they had service I noticed. The Episcopal minister is here I think, but the church is under repairs. . . . It is to be hoped the contest will not be prolonged indefinitely for there is nothing much to be had to eat in Atlanta though if we keep the R.R. we will not quite starve, I trust."

"Sunday 7—We have been to church this morning for the first time in three weeks. Rev. Atticus Haygood preached to us in the Methodist church. Our cruel foe has the grace to cease from shelling us on the Sabbath, at least he has not done so yet. Last Wednesday night the horrid missiles of destruction whizzed past our house and discomposed us considerably. Heretofore they had fallen short, but now we cannot tell at what moment they may strike us. A gentleman and his little girl, ten years of age, were both killed in bed by the same shell last week, and several others have lost their lives. . . ."

"Sunday 14—Another week of anxiety and suspense has passed and the fate of Atlanta is still undecided. We have had but one severe shelling on our side of town, and that was on Wed. night, and kept us awake from 12 o'clock until daylight. Our *humane* foes allowed us to get well to sleep before they began their work of destruction. Another shell entered our store, or rather the rooms above, while I was there examining the premises to see if any more had visited them. I was enveloped in the dust made by it. . . . Last night we went to Mr. [Sidney] Root's and spent the evening but did not sing. An Army Band gave the party a serenade and Root invited them in to cakes and whiskey. . . . I was detailed for service today, and marched off to the shelly side of Whitehall Street, and there kept for three hours doing nothing. . . ."

"Sunday 21—. . . It is said that about twenty lives have been destroyed by these terrible missiles, since the enemy began to throw them into the city. It is like living in the midst of a pestilence, no one can tell but he may be the next victim. . . ."

"Sat. 27—The first three secular days of this week the shells rained heavily upon our city and on Wednesday set three separate houses on fire, and in one of these fires our two printing presses, stored in McDaniel's warehouse, were burnt. . . . On Thursday [Aug. 25th] the shelling ceased altogether and it is rumored that the enemy was retreating, and it is now known that they have deserted their camps around the city and are going somewhere, but what is their design it is hard to tell. I fear that we have not yet got rid of them finally, but that they may have some other plan in view to molest and injure us. But in the meantime we can rest in security for awhile, safe from shells. . . ."


Last Battle Near Atlanta
Sherman's Final Desperate Thrust at the Heart of the Confederacy Is Marked by a Cemetery Near Jonesboro, Shaded by Great Cedar Trees, Under Which the Dead of Both Sides Lie Buried Where They Fell "In a Common Grave for Uncommon Heroes"
E

(Courtesy Wilbur G. Kurtz)

"Monday 29—Sallie and I walked out Marietta Street this morning to see the devastation caused by the bombardment, and truly that part of the city is badly cut up. . . ."

Mr. Richards was right in that bombardment ceased and the siege of Atlanta was lifted on Thursday, August 25, 1864. What he did not know were Sherman's reasons and intentions.

The Federal commander, after a stalemate of nearly a month, was ready to move. The 20th corps, then under A. S. Williams, later under Slocum, was withdrawn to the Chattahoochee so as to guard the W. & A. Railroad over which Sherman drew supplies. With the 23rd, 4th and 14th corps, plus

Howard's entire Army of the Tennessee, Sherman moved southward to get so far below Atlanta that Hood could not parallel the movement without evacuating the city.[207]

Striking the Atlanta and West Point Railroad at Red Oak and Fairburn, the Federals put the line out of commission in approved style by heating the rails in fires of burning ties, then twisting them hopelessly out of shape. Then an eastward move across old Campbell and Clayton counties carried the 4th and 23rd corps to Rough and Ready on the Macon and Western Railroad, while a southeastward move through the same counties put the 14th corps and all of Howard's Tennessee army at Jonesboro, also on the M. & W., now Hood's last open rail line.[208]

The Federal siege lines around Atlanta were in many places visible from the city parapets, and when, on the morning of August 26th, the watchers beheld the silent works of the enemy, rumors flew thick and fast. Scouts were sent out. They reported a southward drift of armed columns, pointing either to a change of front or retreat. Hood concluded that Sherman was withdrawing behind the Chattahoochee—crossing at Campbellton.[209]

By the 30th Hood was no longer in doubt as to Sherman's purpose. He learned of the breaking of the A. & W. P. Sherman's next move would certainly be against the Macon and Western. Cavalry scouts reported that Jonesboro was the point threatened.[210]

General Hood met this last thrust gallantly, as usual. He sent two corps to Jonesboro with Hardee commanding in the field—his own corps led by Cleburne and Lee's corps. At 3 P.M., August 31st, the Battle of Jonesboro began. Cleburne and Lee assaulted the Federal 15th corps posted between the town and the Flint River. Cleburne drove Kilpatrick's cavalry across the stream, but Lee's assault against Logan was ineffective; indeed it lacked the spirit that marked the assault at Ezra Church.[211]

Disaster followed rapidly. That afternoon Hood at Atlanta heard about the 4th and 23rd corps at Rough and Ready and thought this indicated a direct move on Atlanta from the South. To checkmate this suspected move, Lee's corps was withdrawn from Jonesboro to East Point, leaving Cleburne to face six Federal corps, for the 4th and 23rd had marched southward, not northward, dismantling the track of the M. & W. R. R. as they went. During the late afternoon of August 31st, the 14th corps swooped down on Cleburne, capturing Govan's brigade, and nearly capturing the entire corps. Cleburne retreated to Lovejoy's Station.[212]

Sherman, meanwhile, had visualized the situation with respect to Atlanta. Hardee's corps hemmed in and cut off at Jonesboro; Lee's corps somewhere between, and Stewart's corps, with the state militia in the city. The Federal 20th, under Slocum, out at the river, should be on the alert for the next move. It was, and the move was to come soon.[213]

Hood's fourth sortie from Atlanta against Sherman had failed for the same basic reason as the others—too little against too much and generally poor staff work.

Soon after Schofield's 23rd and Stanley's 4th corps struck the M. & W. R. R. about Rough and Ready at 3 P.M., August 31st, they had a brief encounter with some dismounted Confederate cavalry. The resultant firing attracted the attention of the engineer of a southbound supply train from Atlanta, who hastily reversed his engine and backed through East Point and into Atlanta. The receipt by Hood of the information that Schofield and

Stanley were astride his last railroad connection brought with it a realization that Atlanta could be held no longer, even though news of the defeat at Jonesboro had not yet reached the Confederate commander. So without further delay preparations were made to evacuate the city.[213a]

September 1st, in fact, found Atlanta almost in a state of anarchy. Many of the citizens were under the impression that the fight at Jonesboro was a Confederate victory, but their sanguine hopes were blasted by a few deserters who arrived during the day seeking hiding places in the houses of their friends. They told a different story.[214]

Throughout the day troops were moving in every direction and unusual bustle and activity prevailed. The citizens noticed that they were no longer halted and made to show their papers on the streets. Crowds of strange Negroes also made their appearance, but they acted with great caution, and spent most of their time in cellars and houses abandoned by their owners. The citizens could not believe that the city was to be given up. Yet that was what was happening.[215]

By 5 P.M. Hood's evacuation was under way. Commissary stores which could not be moved were distributed among the citizens of Atlanta. As noted, Hardee and Cleburne had retreated from Jonesboro to Lovejoy's. Lee's corps, at the present intersection of Moreland Avenue and McDonough Boulevard, near what was then the Killis Brown farm, was ordered to halt for further orders. Some hours later Lee was ordered to retrace much of his march, this time going to Lovejoy's Station where he joined Hardee's corps.

General Hood, with his staff, departed the city for Lovejoy's via the McDonough Road, followed by the state militia under General Gustavus W. Smith and, finally, by Stewart's corps. Whenever the departing soldiers passed a garden, several men would rush through it, stripping it in a minute of every stalk of corn, and every green thing that could be eaten by man or beast. No one objected. All now knew that their brave defenders were leaving, to return no more in that role. As Hood's men marched through the darkness many of them sang *Lorena,* ballad of a lost love, which seemed to epitomize the melancholy heartbreak of defeat:[216]

"We loved each other then, Lorena,
More than we ever dared to tell;
And what we might have been, Lorena,
Had but our lovings prosper'd well—
But then, 'tis past—the years are gone,
I'll not call up their shadowy forms;
I'll say to them, 'lost years, sleep on!
Sleep on! nor heed life's pelting storm.' "

By midnight of September 1st most of the troops had left the city. But a few cavalrymen lingered. They had a special assignment. Hood had no idea of leaving behind, in usable condition, ammunition and military stores for the use of his adversary.

Shortly after midnight the citizens who had remained in the city were startled by a series of violent explosions from down the Georgia Railroad opposite Oakland Cemetery and the rolling mill.[217]

Hood's ammunition trains, consisting of seven locomotives and 81 loaded cars had been set afire to deny them to the Federals. As the flames reached each car, it exploded with a terrific din. Five hours were occupied in this work of demolition, which also included the rolling mill. Flames shot to a tremendous height and the exploding missiles scattered their red-hot fragments right and left. The earth trembled. Nearby houses rocked like cradles, while on every hand was heard the shattering of window glass and the fall of plastering and loose bricks. Hundreds of people flocked to high places and watched with breathless excitement the volcanic scene on the Georgia Railroad.[218]

Fortunately all the citizens in the vicinity of the explosions had been ordered to leave their houses before the work of blowing up the ammunition trains commenced. Every building for a quarter of a mile around was either torn to pieces or perforated with hundreds of holes by shell fragments. A new day was dawning when the last car let loose, and the last Confederate cavalrymen galloped out McDonough Road (Capitol Avenue) to rejoin Hood's retreating army.[219]

Then, for the people of Atlanta, came the awful hours of waiting—waiting for the unknown. Men with wives and daughters stayed home, weapons at hand, ready for any emergency. The center of the city began to fill with the flotsam and jetsam of war—riffraff, stragglers and deserters; with Negroes delirious and confused over their strange sense of freedom, and with lean and haggard men and women of the lowest class plundering stores and vacant dwellings. They picked up buckets, tinware, canteens, pieces of furniture, old tents; anything lying around loose.

Such was the state of affairs on the morning of September 2, 1864, when Atlanta, worn out and shattered by the storm of war, lay stranded between two flags, under the protection of neither, abandoned by one, and with little hope of mercy from the other.[220]

Yet in the midst of all this confusion, there was little drunkenness and no violence. Men forgot old quarrels and differences, and met in a friendly way. It was somewhat akin to the camaraderie of a group just set adrift in a lifeboat from a sinking ship. Those citizens of Union sympathies suddenly loomed into importance. Not a few of their Confederate neighbors sought them out and requested them to use their influence to secure the protection of their property. In no instance were such requests refused. The Union people were as uneasy as anyone else and showed a disposition to keep on the best possible terms with their fellow-townsmen.[221]

As the early morning hours of Friday, September 2nd, slipped by with no sign of the enemy's approach, Mayor James M. Calhoun decided upon a course of action. The city had not been formally surrendered by Hood. Therefore, the mayor would take care of this detail himself. He held a conference with several members of council and other prominent men near the corner of Peachtree and Marietta streets. All the conferees were mounted on horses and included, besides Mayor Calhoun, Thomas G. W. Crusselle, William Markham, Thomas Kile, Julius A. Hayden and others. All knew a dangerous trip was ahead, and although none knew exactly where Sherman was, it was assumed he was camped a few miles out on the Marietta Road. This assumption was, of course, erroneous.[222] Sherman was at or near Lovejoy's, but Slocum, with the 20th corps, was at the river guarding the W. & A. R. R. bridge and other crossings of the Chattahoochee.

Sherman had, in fact, heard the explosions and seen the glare of the fires in Atlanta at 2 A.M., although he attributed the explosions to heavy firing, and so wired General Thomas at 4 A.M., on the 2nd.[223] At 8 P.M. of the same day he was still uncertain as to what had happened in the city, for he then telegraphed Thomas as follows:

"Until we hear from Atlanta the exact truth, I do not care about your pushing your men against breastworks. Destroy the railroad well up to your lines; keep skirmishers well up, and hold your troops in hand for anything that may turn up. As soon as I know positively that our troops are in Atlanta I will determine what to do. . . ."[224]

General Slocum, at the river, considerably closer than the twenty-six miles that separated Sherman from the city, had also heard the explosions and seen the fire. He guessed correctly that Hood was evacuating Atlanta, and by daybreak had units of the 20th corps en route to town via the Mayson and Turner Ferry Road, now Bankhead Avenue. It was these troops that the Calhoun party was to meet later.

The mayor's group, after a lively discussion as to the propriety of carrying firearms, in addition to the white flag of surrender, and which was settled in the negative, set forth out Marietta Street. This route led the party through that section of the city which had suffered most damage from the recent bombardment. Nearly every residence had been abandoned, and many of the houses were piles of splintered timbers. The street was badly torn up, and the riders, even in broad daylight often found it difficult to thread their way through the scattered debris. A few homes near the city limits were more or less intact including the brick residence of Lemuel Dean at the northwest corner of what is now Jones Avenue, and the J. G. W. Mills, Edwin Payne, and Felix Sowers' homes further out on the opposite side of Marietta Street. The emmissaries of surrender passed all of these; then the shot-riddled Ponder home. Soon the dismantled Confederate breastworks were reached, at Fort Hood opposite the present Bankhead Avenue. They were entirely deserted with the exception of a few spiked cannon here and there.[225]

Finally at a point beyond Fort Hood, where Curran Street now originates at Marietta Street, Mayor Calhoun and his contingent met a small body of Federal 20th Corps troops commanded by Captain H. M. Scott, of the 70th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.[226]

Introducing himself and fellow citizens to the captain, the mayor inquired as to the whereabouts of General Sherman. Scott replied, "General Sherman is twenty miles from here, sir; down about Jonesboro. If you want to reach the commanding officer of this department, you will have to see General Slocum, at the bridge. He will shortly be in command in Atlanta."[227]

At this juncture a larger body of Federal soldiers advanced along the same road, and Scott introduced Calhoun to Colonel John Coburn, commanding the Second Brigade of Ward's Division. Colonel Coburn advised the Mayor to write a formal note embodying his desire to surrender the city, addressed to Brigadier-General William T. Ward, the nearest general officer. Taking a memorandum book from his pocket, Mayor Calhoun tore out a blank page and wrote thereon the following message:

"Atlanta, Ga., September 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General Ward,
Comdg. Third Division, Twentieth Corps:

Sir: The fortune of war has placed Atlanta in your hands. As mayor of the city I ask protection to non-combatants and private property.

James M. Calhoun,
Mayor of Atlanta."

Colonel Coburn handed the note to a courier with instructions to carry it to General Ward, and Mayor Calhoun and party turned their horses back toward Atlanta, riding into the city in the rear of Coburn's command.[228] Thus between 10 and 11 A.M., of September 2, 1864, Atlanta for the first and last time in its history, was surrendered to an invading army.

Shortly before 1 P.M. General Ward telegraphed Lt. Col. H. W. Perkins, Assistant Adjutant-General:

"COLONEL: The city authorities have surrendered to my reconnoitering party, and my troops now occupy the same (Atlanta)."[229]

By noon the whole line of Marietta Street was blue with Union soldiers, and the citizens of Atlanta were hailing the conquerer with mixed emotions. Some, tired of the war, or now feeling free to express long concealed Union sentiments, greeted the Federals with a show of enthusiastic welcome; others took little pains to conceal the fact that they regarded the Northern host as "vandal invaders." Even the small boys of staunch Confederate families whistled "Dixie" and "The Bonnie Blue Flag," for the benefit of, but not to the amusement of Sherman's boys, who retorted, via brass bands, with loud renditions of "Yankee Doodle" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."[230]

The first troops to reach the center of the city were the Second Massachusetts Regiment, under command of Colonel William Cogswell. They constituted the Provost Guard, and occupied the City Hall,[231] running the stars and stripes to the top of the flag staff—the first time the old flag had fluttered to the breeze in Atlanta since early 1861.

By the middle of the afternoon heavy army wagons were rolling in, wreathed in clouds of dust, and by sundown sutlers had their wares displayed in vacant stores and were doing a brisk trade. A news agent of Sherman's army took possession of the post-office and converted it into a news emporium, with well known Northern newspapers and periodicals for sale. The Yankee sword rattled, unsheathed in Atlanta.[232]

That evening General Slocum sent a telegram from Atlanta to Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War. It read:

"General Sherman has taken Atlanta. The Twentieth Corps occupies the city. The main army is on the Macon road, near East Point. A battle was fought near that point, in which General Sherman was successful. Particulars not known."[233]

No emergency was of sufficient magnitude to separate Mr. Samuel P. Richards from his diary. On Thursday, September 1st, he recorded:

"This was a day of terror and a night of dread. About noon came the tidings of a severe fight on the Macon R.R. [Battle of Jonesboro] and that our forces were worsted and the city was to be evacuated at once. Then began a scramble among the inhabitants thereof to get away—others to procure supplies of food for their families. If there had been any doubt of the fact that Atlanta was about to be given up it would have been removed when we saw the depots of Government grain and food thrown open, and the contents distributed among the citizens free gratis, by the sackful and the cartload. The R.R. cars and engines were all run up to one place in order to be fired just as the army left. Five locomotives and 85 cars, Cousin Bill told me, were to be burned. . . . I went to the Macon depot with Mr. West and secured three sacks of meal. As we went down the Ammunition Train was fired, and for half an hour or more an incessant discharge was kept up that jarred the ground and broke the glass in the windows around. It was terrific to listen to and know the object. . . ."

"Friday 2. About noon today the Yankees came in sure enough. A party of five or six came riding by our house. A committee of our citizens went out early and met Gen. Slocum and got his word that private property should be respected, upon which the city was surrendered to them and in they came. The Stars and Stripes were soon floating aloft over the city. The private houses were not molested by the soldiers, and I was therefore very much surprised when I went downtown to see armsful and baskets full of books and wall-paper going up the street in a continuous stream from our store. When I reached the store, the scene would have required the pencil of Hogarth to portray. Yankees, men, women, children and niggers were crowded into the store, each one scrambling to get something to carry away, regardless, apparently, whether it was anything they needed, and still more heedless of the fact that they were stealing! Such a state of utter confusion and disorder as presented itself to my eyes then, I little dreamed of two hours before when I left it all quiet and, as I thought, safe. The soldiers in their mad hunt for tobacco had probably broken open the door, and the rabble had then 'pitched in,' thinking it a 'free fight.' At first I was so dismayed that I almost resolved to let them finish it, but finally I got them out and stood guard until after dark when I left it to its chances until morning, as I was very sleepy. . . ."

"Sunday 4. It is strange to go about Atlanta now and see only Yankee uniforms. The City Hall is headquarters for the Provost Guard. The enemy behave themselves pretty well except in the scramble for liquor, during which every store in town nearly was broken into yesterday. . . . This afternoon three soldiers asked for dinner saying their rations had not come and they would pay for their dinner, so Sallie had some cooked for them. They belonged to Co. E 2nd Mass., Vols., but their chief spokesman was a Scotchman. They think McClellan will be next president as he has been nominated by the Chicago Convention. . . . Returning home [after church] we heard that another big fight at Jonesboro had resulted disastrously to the Confederates, and in confirmation of this we saw 1800 'rebel prisoners' marched into town. They filled the street from the [2nd] Baptist Church to Whitehall St. It was a sad sight but the Yankees cheered at it lustily of course."

On September 3rd Sherman, near Lovejoy's Station, telegraphed General Slocum, commander of the 20th Corps in Atlanta:

"Move all the stores forward from Allatoona and Marietta to Atlanta. Take possession of all good buildings for Government purposes, and see they are not used as quarters. Advise the people to quit now. There can be no trade or commerce now until the war is over. Let Union families go to the North with their effects, and secesh families move on. All cotton is tainted with treason, and no title in it will be respected. It must all go to Nashville as United States property, and pretended claimants may collect testimony for the pursuit of the proceeds of sale after they reach the U.S. Treasury in money."[234]

By the following day, September 4th, Sherman had decided not to pursue Hood south of Atlanta, and issued Special Field Orders No. 64, providing for the distribution of his troops. They read:

"The army having accomplished its undertaking in the complete reduction and occupation of Atlanta, will occupy the place and the country near it until a new campaign is planned in concert with the other grand armies of the United States.

I. The Army of the Cumberland [General Thomas] will occupy the city and its communications with Chattanooga; the Army of the Tennessee [General Howard] will occupy East Point and the right flank, and the Army of the Ohio [General Schofield] the town of Decatur and the left flank; the cavalry will occupy Sandtown, Roswell, and other points on the flanks and along our line of communication.

II. To withdraw to the posts herein designated, the Army of the Cumberland will withdraw, first, to Jonesboro; second, to Rough and Ready,[235] and third, to Atlanta, leaving the cavalry to bring up the rear in the manner herein prescribed.

III. The Army of the Tennessee will move in concert with that of the Cumberland, first, to its old position near Jonesboro; second, across the Flint River to about Morrow's Mill,[236] and third, to East Point and the head of Camp Creek.

IV. The Army of the Ohio will also move in concert with that of the Cumberland, first, to a point near Jonesboro; second, to some point within two miles and east of Rough and Ready, and last to Decatur.

V. General Kilpatrick's cavalry will cover the left rear of the Army of the Tennessee, and that of General Garrard the right rear of the Army of the Ohio until they reach the positions assigned in this order, when the cavalry commands will move to the points designated, viz, Sandtown and Roswell.

VI. The general-in-chief will give notice when the movement will begin, and after reaching Atlanta will establish headquarters there, and afford the army an opportunity to have a full month's rest, with every chance to organize, receive pay, replenish clothing, and prepare for a fine winter's campaign.

By order of Maj. Gen. W. T. Sherman:

L. M. Dayton,
Aide-de-Camp."[237]

By September 7th the movements provided for in the above orders were completed, and on that day General Sherman established his headquarters in Atlanta for a stay of nearly two months, interrupted for some weeks in October and November.

For this purpose he selected one of the newest and finest homes in the city, that of John Neal, at the southwest corner of Washington and Mitchell streets. Mr. Neal (1796-1886) was a native of Warren County, Georgia, but as a young man became one of the earliest settlers of Pike County, establishing residence in its seat of justice, Zebulon. Here he followed the occupations of planter and merchant, being for some years a partner of Samuel Mitchell, donor of the State Square in Atlanta. The Neal family moved to Atlanta in 1858, and almost immediately Mr. Neal acquired the Washington Street lot and began the erection of his $25,000 square two-and-a-half-story home, which was distinguished by a row of handsome Corinthian columns across the front and a stained glass cupola on top.[238]

About the time the Atlanta Campaign began, Mr. Neal decided to return to Zebulon with his family and sold his new Atlanta home to Judge Richard F. Lyon, of Albany, an associate justice of the Georgia Supreme Court. The purchase price was $12,500, half of the original cost, for which Judge Lyon gave his note. Prior to leaving Atlanta Neal asked his old friend Professor J. R. Mayson, principal of the Female College at Ellis and Collins (Courtland) streets, to move his school into the house on the theory that it was more likely to be spared if used for educational purposes. This, Mayson agreed to do, and the Neal furniture was stored in the parlor. Upon the Federal occupation of the city the school was disbanded and Professor Mayson moved out, making way for the most unwelcome guest in the city's history. To General Sherman's credit however, it must be said that he left the house in excellent condition, and the Neal furniture, stored in the parlor, was disturbed but little.[239]

After the war the Neal family returned to Atlanta. Judge Lyon meanwhile, had been hard hit financially by the war, and could not pay his note for the purchase price. After some litigation Mr. Neal repurchased his home at auction for the amount of the note. Even so, it was never again used as a residence. Neal built a new home on the southwest corner of Pryor and Mitchell streets, where he lived out his days as a respected citizen of the community. He died survived by five children: Thomas B. Neal, Mrs. Daniel Pittman, Mrs. John Keely and Mrs. Eugene H. Thornton, all of Atlanta, and Mrs. Mary A. Murrell, of Little Rock, Arkansas. The present State Librarian of Georgia, Miss Ella May Thornton is a granddaughter. Two sons, Colonel James H. Neal and Lieutenant Andrew J. Neal, gave their lives in the Confederate cause, the former at Kinston, North Carolina, on March 8, 1865, and the latter in battle near Atlanta on August 10, 1864.[240]

The original Neal, or Lyon house, as it is sometimes called, was used as a hotel for a few years following the war. From 1870 it was devoted to educational purposes, first as the home of Oglethorpe College; then for fifty years as the Atlanta Girls' High School. During this long period the building was remodeled. The original facade was altered with the removal of the handsome Corinthian columns about the turn of the century, but the basic structure, including walls and foundation was left unchanged. After Girls' High was removed to a new building on Rosalia Street east of Grant Park, in 1925, the ante-bellum home of John Neal stood until 1928, when it was torn down to make room for Atlanta's new million dollar City Hall, completed in 1930.[241]

General George H. Thomas, commander of the Army of the Cumberland, designated by Sherman to garrison Atlanta, chose the Greek Revival home of William Herring and his son-in-law, Austin Leyden, as his headquarters. This handsome ante-bellum Atlanta home stood on the west side of Peachtree Street between Ellis and Cain, on ground now occupied by the north end of Davison's large department store. It was designed by John Boutell, pioneer Atlanta architect, and was built in 1858 or 1859 as the home of William Herring (1799-1868) a prosperous clothing merchant. During the last years of Mr. Herring's life, and for many years thereafter, the house was occupied by the Leyden family, and is usually referred to as the "Leyden House." Its original architecture was somewhat modified by a couple of fires and consequent rebuildings during the decade of the 1880's. The building closed its career as a boarding house, and was demolished in February, 1913, by the late Asa G. Candler, who had acquired the property for commercial purposes. The handsome columns, which adorned the front and sides of the Leyden

House, were removed to Woodberry School, 149 Peachtree Circle, in Ansley Park. They are still the distinguishing feature of this building, now an apartment.[242]

Some of the other Atlanta homes, used as headquarters by Federal officers during the occupation, in the fall of 1864, were those of Edward E. Rawson, on South Pryor Street, by Brigadier-General John W. Geary; Lewis Scofield, on the east side of Peachtree at the junction of Pryor, by Major-General David S. Stanley, and William H. Dabney, on Washington Street near the City Hall, by Major-General Henry W. Slocum.[243] Mayor Calhoun, at his home, on what was then the southwest corner of Washington and Alabama streets (now Produce Row from Central Avenue to Washington) became host to Colonel William G. Le Duc, Quartermaster of the 20th Corps.[244]

Of the hundreds of orders issued by General Sherman during the Atlanta campaign, none affected the citizens of Atlanta more intimately and painfully than Special Orders No. 67, issued September 4th, three days before the General arrived personally in the city. Paragraph one of the order provided for the exile of civilians in the following language:

> "The city of Atlanta being exclusively required for warlike purposes, will be at once vacated by all except the armies of the United States, and such civilians as may be retained."[245]

On September 5th, Colonel William Cogswell, commander of the 2nd Massachusetts Regiment, constituting the Provost Guard of Atlanta, issued the following order:

> "All families now living in Atlanta, the male representatives of which are in the service of the Confederate States, or who have gone south, will leave the city within five days. They will pass through the lines and go south. . . ."[246]

The next day Lt. Col. C. F. Morse, provost marshal, followed up Colonel Cogswell's order with specific instructions to the populace to assemble at the City Hall, for registration September 12th. Those planning to go south were permitted to take wearing apparel, a limited amount of furniture and a small quantity of food.[247]

The day General Sherman arrived in Atlanta, September 7th, he addressed a communication to General Hood, then at Lovejoy, outlining the plan for removal of civilians from the city. It read:

"Atlanta, Ga., September 7, 1864.

General Hood Commanding Confederate Army:

General: I have deemed it to be for the interest of the United States, that the citizens now residing in Atlanta shall remove; those who prefer, to go south, the rest to go north. For the former I can provide transportation in cars as far as Rough and Ready, and also wagons; but that their removal may be made with as little discomfort as possible, it will be necessary to help the families from the cars at Rough and Ready to the cars at Lovejoy. If you consent, I will undertake to remove all the families who prefer to go south to Rough and Ready, with all their movable effects, viz: clothing, trunks, reasonable furniture, bedding, etc., with their servants, white or black, with the proviso that no force will be used toward the blacks in one way or another; but if they want to go with their masters and mistresses they may go, otherwise they will be sent away, except the men, who may be employed by our quartermaster. Atlanta is no place for families and non-combatants, and I have no desire to send them north if you will assist to convey them south. If my proposition meets your views I will consent to have troops in the neighborhood of Rough and Ready, stipulating that no wagon, horses, animals or persons, sent for the purpose stated, shall be in any manner harmed or molested; you on your part agreeing that no cars, carriages, persons or animals, shall be interfered with. Each might send a guard, say of one hundred men, to maintain order, and to limit the truce to ten days after a certain time appointed. I have authorized the mayor to choose two citizens to carry this letter, and such other documents as he may forward in explanation. I shall await your reply. I have the honor to be your obedient servant.

W. T. SHERMAN,
Major General, Commanding."[248]

The two citizens selected by Mayor Calhoun to be the bearers of Sherman's order of exile to Hood were James R. Crew and James M. Ball. While the Federal commander was awaiting Hood's reply he received a message from his own commander-in-chief. It read:

"Executive Mansion, Sept. 8, 1864.

The nation's thanks are tendered by the president to Major-General William T. Sherman and the gallant officers and men of his command before Atlanta, for the distinguished ability, courage and perseverance displayed in the campaign in Georgia, which, under Divine favor, has resulted in the capture of the City of Atlanta. The marches, battles and sieges, and other military operations that have signalized the campaign, must render it famous in the annals of war, and have entitled those who have participated therein to the applause and thanks of the nation.

A. LINCOLN."[249]

Later the same day Messrs. Crew and Ball returned from Lovejoy to the Neal house with Hood's reply, which follows:

"Headquarters, Army of the Tennessee
September 8, 1864.

To Major-General W. T. Sherman:

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday's date, borne by James M. Ball and James R. Crew, citizens of Atlanta, has been received. You say therein that you deem it to be for the interests of the United States for the citizens residing in Atlanta to be removed, etc., I do not consider that I have any alternative in the matter. I accept the proposition to declare a truce of ten days, or such time as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose mentioned, and shall render all the assistance in my power to expedite the transportation of citizens in this direction. I suggest that a staff officer be appointed by you to superintend the removal to Rough and Ready, while I will appoint a like officer to control the removal further south; that a guard of one hundred men be sent by each party as you propose, to maintain order at that place, and that the removal begin next Monday.

"And now sir, permit me to say that the unprecedented measure you propose transcends, in studied and ingenious cruelty, all acts ever before brought to my attention in the dark history of this war. In the name of God and humanity I protest, and believe you will find yourself wrong in thus expelling from their homes and firesides the wives and children of a brave people. I have the honor to be, general.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. HOOD."[250]

Upon receipt of this combination acquiescence in, and castigation of, Sherman's decision to remove the civilians, Mayor Calhoun, on September 8th, published a "Notice to the Citizens of Atlanta," reading:

"Major-General Sherman instructs me to say to you that you must all leave Atlanta; that as many of you who want to go North can do so, and that as many as want to go South can do so, and that all can take with them their movable property, servants included, if they want to go, but that no force is to be used, and that he will furnish transportation for persons and property as far as Rough and Ready, from whence it is expected General Hood will assist in carrying it on. Like transportation will be furnished for people and property going North, and it is required that all things contemplated by this notice will be carried into execution as soon as possible.

"All persons are requested to leave their names, and number in their families, with the undersigned as early as possible, that estimates may be made of the quantity of transportation required.

JAMES M. CALHOUN,
Mayor."[251]

While General Hood, Mayor Calhoun and the people of Atlanta had no alternative but to cooperate with the inevitable, such cooperation did not end the correspondence upon the subject. Several more acid letters were exchanged between Sherman and Hood, and a lively exchange was also had between Sherman, Mayor Calhoun and councilmen Edward E. Rawson and Levi C. Wells.

All to no avail. Registrations began on the 11th and continued through the 20th of September. In all 446 Atlanta families, 705 adults and 860 children were removed south. A total of 79 servants accompanied them, most of the ex-slaves preferring to take their chances with their liberators. An average of 1654 pounds of furniture, household goods, etc., went along with each family. Army wagons were sent around to collect the furniture, etc., and with the loading up of the passengers, the white topped vehicles moved southward to the then busy, now vanished Clayton County town of Rough and Ready. Here the furniture and citizenry were transferred to General Hood's wagons and carried to Lovejoy's, from which point the Macon and Western Railroad conveyed the sorrowing caravan to points southward.[252]

Few persons desiring to go north had remained in the city until the order of eviction. Most had already departed, to weather the storm with relatives beyond combat zones. While the exile was carried out exactly in accordance with the agreement between Hood and Sherman, and the guards at Rough and Ready, lately at bayonet's point, laughed and joked, vieing with each other in their efforts to be of service to women and children, it was a pathetic exodus. People who had spent the best years of their lives in Atlanta, turned their unwilling backs on home and the sacred associations that clustered around it, to face unknown privations, and, in many instances actual want. Like Moses and his followers of old, many became wanderers upon the face of the earth, without the incentive of finding a "promised land."[253]

Sherman's harsh measures in the wholesale eviction of the Atlanta populace, he justified by the explanation that the city was to be an armed camp for several weeks, and that he didn't care to be responsible for the inhabitants' food and their protection.

S. P. Richards remained in the city until September 21st, at which time he took his family to New York City to be near relatives. His comments upon the exodus of the civilians, as recorded in his ever-handy diary are interesting:

> "Friday 9—We have had several days of great excitement, as it was understood that orders had been, or were about to be, issued to the effect that everybody not belonging to the army must leave the city, going North or South as they saw fit, except the families of those men who had left the city before the Yankees came, and such *must go South*. . . . But as yet no orders have been published specifying anything and we do not know what we have to do. . . . The Yankees have not molested us much at the house, and have generally behaved pretty well. One unpleasant feature of present circumstances is the impudent airs the negroes put on, and their indifference to the wants of their former masters. Of course they are all free and the Yankee soldiers don't fail to assure them of that fact. Jabe's 'Sally' has come out of her hole now and is as independent as can be. 'George' and 'Clem' are said to be in the city too. So our Negro property has all vanished into air."

The Federal army settled down in and around Atlanta to make itself comfortable for a few weeks. Scores of houses, some quite pretentious, were torn down and the lumber used in the construction of shanties for the soldiers. Their quarters were built in a regular and neat manner, on vacant lots, and in the city hall square and the public park north of the depot on the State Square. The ranking officers, as already noted, made themselves comfortable in some of the finest homes of the city, and were waited upon like royalty by the Negroes. Generals Logan and Blair returned to their homes on leave of absence, and many furloughs were granted to the rank and file. The city defenses were not only strengthened but were drawn considerably closer in, ready for an assault from any quarter. The roads leading south were strongly picketed almost to the Confederate camps at Lovejoy station. Sherman, not knowing what Hood would do next, kept a close watch on his dogged antagonist, and, expecting the next blow to fall upon his W. & A. Railroad supply line in the rear, sent Thomas to Chattanooga and Corse to Rome.[254]

Sherman had divined Hood's intentions rather accurately for the latter was to practically retrace the route of the Atlanta Campaign of the previous spring and early summer. By September 18th Hood's army began to move westward from Lovejoy's toward the Atlanta & West Point Railroad. On the 20th a line of battle was formed (but none fought), with the right east of the railroad, and the left resting near the Chattahoochee River. Army headquarters were at Palmetto. Here on the 25th, President Jefferson Davis, accompanied by two staff officers, arrived for a conference with Hood and for an informal review of the troops. During the evening the President was serenaded by the Twentieth Louisiana band, after which he made a short but spirited speech.

Davis remained at Palmetto until the 27th. The following day the movement of Hood's army across the Chattahoochee got under way via the Phillip's and Pumpkintown ferries, with the supply trains following on the 29th across Moore's Ferry out from Newnan.[255]

Then the old familiar scenes, Lost Mountain, Marietta, Big Shanty, New Hope Church, Allatoona. The move was calculated to force Sherman to withdraw from Atlanta. It did, except for Slocum's 20th Corps, which stayed behind to occupy and protect the city. However, in withdrawing the bulk of his troops from Atlanta, Sherman stayed between Hood and the city. Some damage was done to the W. & A. Railroad; a brisk action took place at Allatoona between French and Corse. But Hood, with Sherman in hot pursuit, was moving too rapidly to inflict any lasting damage to the Federal line of communications. It is not within the purview of this history to detail and elaborate upon Hood's ill-fated Tennessee campaign. Suffice it to say, that from Resaca Hood turned southwest; crossed the Coosa River near Gadsden, Alabama; thence proceeded northwest to Florence, then north through Columbia and Spring Hill, Tennessee, to Franklin, in late November.[256]

By October 26th Sherman realized that there was little to gain in following Hood into Alabama and Tennessee. A better idea occurred to him. He would leave the defense of Tennessee in the capable hands of the slow but sure George H. Thomas, and return to Atlanta. Then, practically unopposed, he could cut loose from that point and march across Georgia to Savannah. So back to Atlanta, with a sizable contingent of his army came the Union Chief.[257]

General Hood, with the Army of Tennessee went on to disaster in the Battle of Franklin, November 30th, in which he lost 6000 men, including the gallant Pat Cleburne and Generals Adams, Carter, Strahl, Granbury and Gist, all killed. Then to Nashville, December 15th and 16th, where he made his final stand and was defeated. On January 3, 1865, the remnants of Hood's beaten army were at Tupelo, Mississippi, and on the 15th he turned the command over to Beauregard,[258] John Bell Hood, Lieutenant-General, C.S.A., had done his best. But the fortunes of war were against him, and he retired broken hearted from the Confederate Army. As his men retreated from Nashville across the frozen Tennessee countryside, many, in spite of severe physical discomfort, managed to sing an impromptu adaptation of the old tune, The Yellow Rose of Texas:

"And now I'm going southward,
For my heart is full of woe,
I'm going back to Georgia,
To find my 'Uncle Joe.'

You may sing about your dearest maid,
And sing of Rosalie,
But the gallant Hood of Texas
Played hell in Tennessee."

Some of these veterans of the Army of Tennessee found their old commander, "Uncle Joe" Johnston, and fought their last campaigns with him in North Carolina during the early months of 1865, finally surrendering to their Nemesis, William Tecumseh Sherman.[259]

An incident of the Federal occupation of Atlanta, which somewhat mitigated its harshness, was the series of concerts sponsored by Colonel William G. Le Duc, quartermaster of the 20th corps, who was remembered by many Confederate widows and orphans for his kindness and consideration in helping them to get out of the doomed city with as little hardship as possible.

Mrs. Rebecca S. Welch, of Columbus, whose husband and son had fallen in Virginia, was staying at the home of Colonel George W. Adair at Peters and what later became Park Street, then considerably beyond the city limits. Mrs. Welch was an accomplished pianist and had a beautiful, well trained voice. It was in her behalf that the northern colonel conceived the concert idea, only 20 days after the occupation, for the city was filled with soldiers and camp followers eager for entertainment.[260]

Colonel Le Duc tells about the concert in a letter to Forrest Adair, Sr., son of George W., written from Hastings, Minnesota, January 31, 1910.

"I have been active at times examining and destroying old letters and papers, and sometimes find something that may interest others, and give a momentary pleasure in this way. I discovered a concert program of a performance held under my direction in Atlanta on September 24, 1864, by Mrs. Welch (your aunt I think).[261] I had buried her sister on my arrival in Atlanta, reading the Masonic burial service over her grave, as there were no chaplains to be had. Mr. [William] Markham and his daughter, now Mrs. Robert Lowry attended the funeral.

"The sister left four children, and Mrs. Welch had two of her own to be cared for and fed. She was in great distress of mind, and having accidentally heard her sing, and noted the fine quality of her voice, I persuaded her to try concerts to help out her means of caring for the children.

"I fixed up the theater, the Atheneum on Alabama[262] Street, which had suffered from a shell or two through the roof during the bombardment. These programs I had printed on the little army printing press, which I used for printing general orders.

"This concert came off in good form. General Sherman and other officers attended, the house was full, with not even standing room left. The frightened little woman trembled at first, but the soldiers applauded and she finally got through triumphantly.

"I then arranged another concert, and put the direction in the hands of an officer of one of the Massachusetts regiments, as I had a leave of absence for thirty days, which was extended to sixty days, and I went to visit my wife and children in Ohio.

"I advised Mrs. Welch to continue giving concerts as they were very popular, which she did with success. I afterwards learned that she cleared $2700, and on the advice of the officers took the children to some place in the north where she could give them some schooling.

"The old program may not interest you, but your excellent mother will no doubt remember something of it. It could not be expected of you, for you, I believe, were the baby boy I relieved your mother of carrying on that 14-mile ride when she joined the Rebel army at Rough and Ready."[263]

The program, sent by Colonel Le Duc to Mr. Adair read as follows:

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT
ATHENEUM, ATLANTA, GA.
September 24th 1864
By The
Celebrated Brass Band of the 33d Mass. Vols.
And
Amateur Vocalists

PROGRAMME

PART FIRST

1.	Faust March, Soldier's Chorus	Band
2.	O! Mio Fernando, from Favorita	Band
3.	Then You'll Remember Me	Mrs. Welch
4.	Ever of Thee, Duet,	Mrs. Welch & Mr. F. Odena
5.	Drum Solo	Mr. I. Smith
6.	Mary of Argyle	Mr. F. Odena
7.	Pot Pourri, from Ernani	Band

PART SECOND

1.	Anvil Chorus	Band
2.	Castles in the Air, Piano Solo	Mrs. Welch
3.	Violin Solo	Mr. I. Smith
4.	Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming, Quartette, Mrs. Welch, Miss Welch and Messrs. Odena & Naird	
5.	Labyrinth Waltzes	Band
6.	Maiden Wake from Thy Slumbers	Mr. F. Odena
7.	National Airs	Band

Tickets: ONE DOLLAR, Admitting a Gentleman or a Gentleman and Lady
Doors open at 7 o'clock; Concert to commence at 8 o'clock

Tickets may be purchased and Seats reserved by application to the Ticket Office at the Atheneum, second Door north of the Trout House.

TICKET OFFICE OPEN FROM 9. A.M. TO 8 P.M.

Keep this Programme

Written in longhand upon the bottom of the "progamme" sent by Colonel Le Duc to Mr. Adair, is the following:

"Sept. 25, 1864. Paid Mrs. Welch her share of the proceeds of this concert $273.

W. G. LE DUC."[264]

While many Fulton and De Kalb County families living in the environs of Atlanta refugeed to other points upon the approach of the Federal armies, they were not required by decree to do so as were those living in the city. Consequently many stuck it out at home. Probably their greatest source of annoyance during the occupation was the numerous foraging parties of Federal soldiers, who constantly roamed the countryside looking for fresh fruits, vegetables and meat. Indeed some of the less scrupulous among the soldiery had an affinity for anything of value not nailed down or red hot, and did not hesitate to "take up with it" as the expression went.

As a matter of fact foraging or raiding parties had become all the rage with the bluecoats by October, as evidenced by the following letter from one of Sherman's men, and written in Atlanta on October 22nd:

"Dear Folks at Home: Again our communication has been cut[265] and I delayed writing till today. . . . We are very ignorant of matters and things outside of the city even of our own army, first we hear Sherman is in one place, then next day we hear he is 40 miles away from there, so we don't believe anything at all. . . .

"Just now foraging or raiding parties are all the rage with us, in fact it was a necessity for the mules were dying fast. Week before last we sent a Brigade of Infty from each of the 3 Divisions of our Corps and 2 Batteries & a Battalion of Cavalry with 500 wagons. They went about 25 miles, were gone 4 days & brought back every wagon full of corn or sweet potatoes, as well as any number of sheep, calves, pigs, fowls, etc. The men lived high off the country and brought back lots of plunder.

"Last Sunday another similar party went out a little further and Tom went with them. Our Regt wagon went too and brought back a calf, goose, 2 chickens, 2 pumpkins & a bushel of sweet potatoes for our mess of three.

"He [Tom] came in Wednesday and since then we've lived on the fat of the land and have a goose and rooster fattening yet. It makes me feel like a countryman again to be woke up in the morning by goose gabble and rooster crowing. I enjoy it hugely. It may seem barbarous to you to rob henroosts but Hood cut off our R.R. communication and forced us to forage for corn & of course we don't refuse to accept any thing better that offers. All is fair in war you know."[266]

On the 29th the same soldier, a member of the 5th Connecticut Volunteers, wrote to his folks again:

"Raiding parties are all the rage with us yet. Tom got back last Monday with more potatoes and fowl so we live like epicures. I never ate so many sweet potatoes in one week as in the past one, and they agree with my taste and constitution too to a charm. We have a bushel or more yet for us three. . . ."[267]

Among the thousands of Georgia citizens who did not "enjoy hugely" the raiding and foraging parties was Thomas Maguire of "Promised Land" plantation at Rockbridge near the Gwinnett-De Kalb line. His journal entries describe the largely fruitless efforts made by himself and family to protect the substance of "Promised Land" during October and November, 1864. His experiences were typical of practically all prosperous farmers near Atlanta, or on the line of march after November 16th, when the march to the sea started from Atlanta.

"Oct. 19—This day devoted to hiding out wheat, two boxes in the farmer field, 80 bushels. Little hands pulling fodder of syrup-cane in the patches. Will put out some barrels of syrup this day making preparation for the evil time coming should it come. . . ."

"Oct. 22—Yankees at Lithonia and may be here today or tomorrow. Are getting things put away from them. . . . With sheep and cattle being out of the way, we are now ready to stand a trial with the Yankees."

"Oct. 27— . . . At 10½ o'clock some 30 Yankees rode up. Took Phillip's wagon and two horses, all our meal and flour, one keg of syrup and several articles from the house that I do not know of, one bu. grain, the last we had. They stayed some 15 or 20 minutes and put back over the [Yellow] river. They also took John E's saddlebags and a large tin cup."

"Nov. 2—Hands gathering up corn and some trifling folks at it too, but this is war time and maybe worse is coming, but we must try and bear it as best we can."

"Nov. 3—What will become of us. God only knows."

"Nov. 14—5 soldiers at dinner here today—smoke considerable at Atlanta."[268]

"Nov. 16—Up last night nearly all night. News that Yankees were coming this way after burning Atlanta, Decatur and some houses at Stone Mountain. Hid out box tools, horse, buggy and other things. Mr. Anderson left after breakfast. We are now waiting for the worst to come, still hoping they will not come this way. If they are coming they will be here at nine o'clock. It is now 7. I went to see Mr. Anderson and while I was gone the Yankees came sure enough. I did not like to go back home so I stayed with David. A little after ten the Yankees were here and coming. Slocum's corps came and camped all around the house. At every side hogs and sheep are being shot down and skinned to regale the Yankee palates. Mr. Anderson and I slept in the woods all night, not very pleasant for either body or mind not knowing what was going on at home."

"Nov. 17—Still in the woods. Slept but little, was dodging about in the woods trying to see the Yankees from our hiding place. The Yankees all gone about 11 o'clock. I came home at 2 tired enough and sleepy but glad to find that home folks were not abused although there was great destruction of property. Gin house and screw burned, stables and barn all in ashes, fencing burned and destruction visible all around. The carriage and big wagon burned up, corn and potatoes gone, horses and steers gone, sheep, chickens and geese, also syrup boiler damaged, one barrel of syrup burned, saddles and bridles in the same fix. Now engaged in gathering up the fragments of the spoils. It is useless to try to record the destruction of property, still I hope we can live. I think we have plenty of corn & wheat & syrup hid out. There was some 20 bushels of wheat burned in the gin house of our own, some of Mr. Minor's and others. Had much to do to save the corn cribs, gin house still burning and the straw piles, also three bales of cotton burned and the other cut open to make beds for the soldiers, all belonging to Mr. Ed Turner. The gin thrash and fan burned, the castings laying to cog wheel and other parts of machinery in ruins; the destruction of Jerusalem on a small scale."

"Nov. 18—Roving around trying to save something from the grasp of plundering neighbors around who are here in droves. Still we are all cheerful and hopeful that the worst is passed and the Yankees gone, I hope forever. Several dead horses and mules lying around. We have one horse that was left, one of his hoofs nearly off. We are trying to doctor him up. Several people still prowling around here and the Yankees' camp and taking any and everything they can find no matter who the owner may be. No news from where the Yankees are."

"Nov. 19—Lots of folks still hunting around here for plunder."

"Dec. 19—Whipped three negroes after dinner—viz, Francis, Phillis and Dick—so much for stealing. I hope this will be the last for some time."

"Dec. 24—Little or no preparation for Christmas is being made."

"Dec. 25—Not much fuss this morning by the little ones about Christmas. Not like it used to be in other years."

Thomas Maguire and hundreds like him, who through energy and thrift, had acquired a modest competency, suffered greatly at the hands of Federal soldiers from afar and "poor whites" from nearby. Yet he was more fortunate than many, for after the storm had passed he and his family at least had a roof over their heads. The old gentleman has been resting in his family cemetery for 65 years, but the manor house of "Promised Land" still sits upon its hilltop, tight and sound as it was when unwelcome visitors wrought havoc around its doorstep 87 years ago.

By November 8th Sherman's plans for the evacuation of Atlanta and the march to the sea had been formulated. On the 9th he issued Special Field Orders No. 120 from Kingston, Georgia, providing for the organization of his army for that purpose. It was divided into two wings, the right and the left, the former commanded by Major-General Oliver O. Howard and the latter by Major-General Henry W. Slocum. The right was composed of the 15th corps, Major-General P. J. Osterhaus commanding, and the 17th corps, Major-General Frank P. Blair commanding. The left was composed of the 14th corps, under Major-General Jefferson C. Davis, and the 20th corps under Brigadier-General Alpheus S. Williams.[269]

On November 12th the railroad and telegraph communications to North Georgia and Tennessee, in the rear were broken and the W. & A. bridge over the Chattahoochee was burned, leaving the Federal army destined for Savannah, detached from all friends and dependent upon its own resources and supplies. By the 14th all the troops had arrived at or near Atlanta and were grouped into the two wings just noted. Every effort was made to purge this army of non-combatants and of the sick, the lame and the halt, for mobility was a prime necessity. As finally constituted, the army was composed of 62,204 officers and men, including, besides infantry, 5063 cavalry and 1812 artillery.[270]

Sherman himself reached Atlanta on the afternoon of the 14th and reoccupied his headquarters at the Neal house. He found that all preparations for the march had been made. Colonel Beckwith, chief commissary, reported 1,200,000 rations in possession of the troops, which was about 20 days supply, and he had on hand a good supply of beef cattle to be driven along on the hoof. Of forage, the supply was limited—only a five days supply of oats and corn, but Special Field Orders No. 120 had included the following proviso. "The army will forage liberally on the country during the march."[271] It did.

That night, the 14th, a special assignment was carried out. Sherman describes it:

"Colonel Poe, United States Engineers, of my staff, had been busy in his special task of destruction. He had a large force at work, had leveled the great depot, roundhouse, and the machine shops of the Georgia Railroad, and had applied fire to the wreck. One of these machine shops had been used by the rebels as an arsenal, and in it were stored piles of shot and shell, some of which proved to be loaded, and that night was made hideous by the bursting of shells, whose fragments came uncomfortably near Judge Lyon's [Neal] house, in which I was quartered. The fire also reached the block of stores near the depot, and the heart of the city was in flames all night, but the fire did not reach the parts of Atlanta where the courthouse was, or the great mass of dwelling houses."[272]

The march from Atlanta began on the morning of Tuesday the 15th. The right wing and cavalry, under General Howard, departed via the McDonough Road (Capitol Avenue) and followed the Macon & Western Railroad southeast toward Jonesboro, while the left, under Slocum, marched out Decatur Street, following the Georgia Railroad through Decatur and Stone Mountain toward Madison. Both columns were given seven days to reach Milledgeville, then the capital of Georgia.[273]

Sherman himself remained in Atlanta during the 15th with the 14th corps and the rear-guard of the right wing, to complete the loading of the wagon trains, and the destruction of the buildings of Atlanta which could be converted to hostile uses. About 7 A.M., of November 16th the commander-in-chief, accompanied by his personal staff, a company of Alabama cavalry and a company of infantry, rode out of Atlanta via Decatur Street, filled by the marching troops and wagons of the 14th corps. As Sherman reached the hill just outside of the old Confederate defense line, he paused to look back upon the scenes of his recent labors. A little later he stood upon some of the ground whereon was fought the bloody battle of July 22nd, from where he could see the copse of wood where McPherson had fallen. Behind lay Atlanta, smoldering and in ruins, black smoke rising high in the air, and hanging like a pall over the ruined city. Off in the distance, on the McDonough Road, was the rear of Howards column, its gun barrels glistening in the sun, and its white-topped wagons stretching away to the south. As Sherman surveyed these scenes a 14th corps band struck up the stirring music of the Battle Hymn of the Republic; the marching men caught the strain, and the Decatur Road vibrated to[274]

John Brown's body lies a mould'ring in the grave,
John Brown's body lies a mould'ring in the grave,
John Brown's body lies a mould'ring in the grave,
His soul is marching on.

He has gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord,
He has gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord,
'Mid the thunder of the cannon and the roll of the drums.
His soul is marching on.

Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
Glory, glory hallelujah!
His soul is marching on.[275]

Sherman commented that "never before or since have I heard the chorus of 'Glory, glory, hallelujah!' done with more spirit, or in better harmony of time or place."[276]

The first night out of Atlanta, Sherman camped by the roadside with the 14th corps near Lithonia, with Stone Mountain in plain view, while Colonel Poe dismantled the Georgia Railroad in the approved fashion by manufacturing "Sherman's neckties."[277] The infamous "march to Savannah and the sea" was well under way, and here we take leave of the most unwelcome sojourner in Atlanta's history and return to what was left of the city.

Total losses in the Atlanta Campaign were not as large as those incurred contemporaneously in the East, yet many thousands of homes were saddened by the loss of loved ones. The final count stood: Union, 31,687, Confederate, 34,979.[278]

Sherman's primary objective insofar as the destruction of Atlanta was concerned can be classified as military. The city, as has been pointed out, was one of the chief rail and industrial centers of the Confederacy. Good military strategy dictated that it should not become so again, for the capture of the city did not end the war. Therefore the Federal commander determined to make Atlanta not only untenable militarily and industrially but to render it useless as a future base for Confederate operations.

To that end he ordered the destruction of the city's industrial and railroad plant, public buildings and warehouses. Execution of the order, unfortunately, resulted in the destruction of many dwellings and other structures not of military or industrial value, some accidentally and some on purpose. Indeed mob psychology and vandalism have been concomitants of invading armies since the time of Alexander and Caesar.

While many dwellings had been torn down before the evacuation in order to provide lumber and materials for barracks or because they stood in the path of entrenchment construction, many others caught fire from conflagrations set to destroy industrial or military installations. Still other residences and buildings were set afire by vandals in uniform, for whose actions Sherman, as commander-in-chief, must be held accountable.

A number of valuable and useful buildings were saved by ruse and intervention. In the former category was the Atlanta Medical College; in the latter, the Masonic Hall, City Hall-Court House, five churches near the City Hall, and many of the city's finest homes in that section.

The Medical College, on Butler Street, had been pressed into service some time before as a hospital, and the credit for saving it from the flames belongs to Dr. P. P. Noel D'Alvigny, native Frenchman and a pioneer physician of Atlanta, who had functioned for several years as a member of the college faculty. He had also served as a soldier in the French army.[279]

On the morning of the evacuation of the city by the Confederate forces, Dr. D'Alvigny was left behind, and placed in charge of some wounded soldiers at the college building. When it was definitely announced that the city must be burned, the doctor set his wits to work to save the building. His first step was to gain the assistance of the hospital attendants, and in order to accomplish this purpose whiskey was distributed among them without stint.[280]

When the fatal night came, the doctor, upon coming to the building found that the cots and beds had been broken to pieces for kindling, and that the straw had been scattered upon the floor. The time had come for action, and approaching the officers in charge, D'Alvigny was informed that the place had to be burned that night. He stated in reply that he had been in three armies, and that that was the first time he had ever seen sick and wounded men burned without giving them, at least a chance for removal. The officer in charge denied that there were any sick or wounded men in the building, and that they had all been removed by military authority. The doctor then threw open the doors to the upstairs room where his hospital attendants had been placed, carefully instructed in the parts they were to perform. Immediately the room resounded with distressing groans and appeals for attention. The officer, after witnessing this unexpected sight, gave the doctor until daylight to have the men removed. By that time the Federal army was on the march and the danger was past. The Atlanta Medical College had been saved, to be again used for the noble purpose for which it was first erected.[281]

The Masonic Hall, on Decatur Street, was saved through the influence of certain local Masons with brother members of that fraternity in the Federal army.

To Father Thomas O'Reilly, pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception goes full credit for saving from destruction, not only his own church on the southeast corner of Hunter and Loyd tsreets, but also the Central Presbyterian, across Washington Street and facing the City Hall; the Second Baptist, on the northwest corner of Washington and Mitchell; Trinity Methodist, on Mitchell Street opposite the City Hall; St. Philip's Episcopal, on the northeast corner of Washington and Hunter; the City Hall itself, and as a result the nearby residential section.[282]

Father O'Reilly, a native of County Cavan, Ireland, had come to Atlanta in 1861 from Albany, Georgia, and during the entire period of the war had ministered unselfishly to the Confederate, and later to both Confederate and Federal wounded and dying in Atlanta. Naturally, therefore, he felt grieviously offended, after serving both armies so faithfully, to learn that the city was to be destroyed. His pleas to the Federal authorities, through General Slocum, who was familiar with the good works of the tireless priest, did not go unheeded. Hence the churches and buildings enumerated above were spared.[283]

To commemorate this outstanding war-time accomplishment upon the part of Father O'Reilly, the Atlanta Historical Society sponsored the erection of a marble monument on the City Hall grounds at Washington and Mitchell streets. It was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on October 18, 1945, a belated, but fitting tribute to an unsung hero.

This good man of God, his health undermined by his years of arduous labor, died at Chalybeate Springs, near Staunton, Virginia, on September 6, 1872, at the early age of 41. His body was returned to Atlanta and buried in the vault of the present building of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, then in the course of construction. Indeed the building itself is in a measure O'Reilly's monument, for it was he who started it, though he was denied the pleasure of witnessing its completion.[284]

While St. Philip's Episcopal Church was among those saved through the intercession of Father O'Reilly, it by no means escaped damage during the occupation. It was used at various times as a bowling alley, a commissary, a dance hall for Negroes, and a stable for cavalry horses, all apparently sanctioned by the commanding general. The rectory, the Parish office building, and two other small subsidiary buildings were destroyed, and the materials used in building Federal barracks and fortifications. To escape the fate of the Episcopal rectors at Rome and Marietta, who were first imprisoned and then banished from the State, the Rev. Mr. Freeman, who had taken such an active part in conducting a Confederate hospital in the Church, fled to Cincinnati.

On November 25th, a week after Sherman's army left Atlanta, Governor Joseph E. Brown ordered General W. P. Howard, of the State Militia to inspect the State property in Atlanta and the city itself, and to protect the same. Howard's report of his findings constitute a graphic picture of the city at the time. It follows, in full:

"Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 7th, 1864

To His Excellency Joseph E. Brown, Governor of Georgia:

"In obedience to orders of Nov. 25, to inspect the State property in Atlanta, and the city itself, and protect the same, I have the honor to make the following report. With it I beg leave to present your Excellency with a pencilled map of the city, showing the position of every house left unburned.

"The property of the State was destroyed by fire, yet a vast deal of valuable material remains in the ruins. Three-fourths of the bricks are good and will be suitable for rebuilding if placed under shelter before freezing weather. There is a quantity of brass in the journals of burned cars and in the ruins of the various machinery of the extensive railroad shops; also, a valuable amount of copper from the guttering of the State depot, the flue pipes of destroyed engines, stop cocks of machinery, etc. The car wheels that were uninjured by fire were rendered useless by breaking the flanges. In short, every species of machinery that was not destroyed by fire was most ingeniously broken and made worthless in its original form—the large steam boilers, the switches, the frogs, etc. Nothing has escaped. The fire engines, except Tallulah No. 3, were sent North. Tallulah has been overhauled and a new fire company organized. Nos. 1 and 2 fire engine houses were saved. All the city pumps were destroyed, except one on Marietta Street. The car shed, the depots, machine shops, foundries, rolling mills, merchant mills, arsenals, laboratory, armory, etc., were all burned.

"In the angle between Hunter Street, commencing at the City Hall, running east, and McDonough Street (Capitol Avenue), running south, all houses were destroyed. The jail and calaboose were burned. All business houses, except those on Alabama Street, commencing with the Gate City Hotel (corner Pryor), running east to Loyd Street (Central Avenue), were burned. All the hotels, except the Gate City were burned. By referring to my map, you will find about 400 houses standing. The scale of the map is 400 feet to one inch. Taking the car-shed for the center, describe a circle, the diameter of which is twelve inches, and you will perceive that the circle contains about 300 squares. Then, at a low estimate, allow three houses to every 400 feet, and we will have 3600 houses in the circle. Subtract the number of houses indicated on the map, as standing, and you will see by this estimate, the enemy have destroyed 3200 houses. Refer to the exterior of the circle, and you will discover that it is more than half a mile to the city limits, in every direction, which was thickly populated, say nothing of the houses beyond, and you will see that the enemy have destroyed from four to five thousand houses. Two-thirds of the shade trees in the Park and city, and of the timber in the suburbs have been destroyed.

The suburbs present to the eye one vast, naked, ruined, deserted camp. The Masonic Hall is not burned, though the corner-stone is badly scarred by some thief, who would have robbed it of its treasure, but for the timely interference of some mystic brother.

"The City Hall is damaged but not burned. The Second Baptist, Second (Central) Presbyterian, Trinity and Catholic churches and all the residences adjacent between Mitchell and Peters (Trinity Avenue) streets, running south of east, and Loyd and Washington streets running south of west, are safe, all attributable to Father O'Reilly, who refused to give up his parsonage to Yankee officers, who were looking out for fine houses for quarters, and there being a large number of Catholics in the Yankee army, who volunteered to protect their Church and Parsonage, and would not allow any houses adjacent to be fired that would endanger them. As a proof of their attachment to their Church and love for Father O'Reilly, a soldier who attempted to fire Col. Calhoun's house (Washington, just north of Hunter), the burning of which would have endangered the whole block was shot and killed, and his grave is now marked. So to Father O'Reilly the country is indebted for the protection of the City Hall, Churches, etc.

"Dr. Quintard's (St. Luke's, Walton Street), Protestant Methodist (Forsyth and Garnett streets), the Christian (Decatur Street between Ivy and Collins), and African (off Gilmer Street between Courtland and Piedmont) churches were destroyed. All other churches were saved. The Medical College was saved by Dr. D'Alvigny who was left in charge of our wounded. The Female College (Courtland and Ellis streets) was torn down for the purpose of obtaining the brick with which to construct winter quarters. All institutions of learning were destroyed. The African church was used as an academy for educating negroes. Roderick Badger, a negro Dentist, and his brother, Bob Badger, a train-hand on the West Point and La Grange Railroad, both well known to the citizens of Atlanta, were assistant professors to three philanthropic Northmen in this institution. Very few negroes remained in the city. Thirteen 32-pound rifle cannon, with cascabels and trunnions broken off and jammed in the muzzles, remain near the Ga. R.R. shop. One well reported to be filled with ammunition. Fragments of wagons, wheels, axles, bodies, etc., are strewn over the city. Could I have arrived ten days earlier, with a guard of 100 men, I could have saved the State and city a million dollars.

"There were about 250 wagons in the city on my arrival, loading with pilfered plunder; pianoes, mirrors, furniture of all kinds, iron, hides without number, and an incalculable amount of other things, very valuable at the present time. This exportation of stolen property had been going on ever since the place had been abandoned by the enemy. Bushwhackers, robbers and deserters, and citizens from the surrounding country for a distance of fifty miles have been engaged in this dirty work.

"Many of the finest houses, mysteriously left unburned, are filled with the finest furniture, carpets, pianoes, mirrors, etc., and occupied by parties, who six months ago lived in humble style. About fifty families remained during the occupancy of the city by the enemy, and about the same number have returned since its abandonment. From two to three thousand dead carcasses of animals remain in the city limits.

"Horses were turned loose in the cemetery to graze upon the grass and shrubbery. The ornaments of graves, such as marble lambs, miniature statuary, souvenirs of departed little ones are broken and scattered abroad. The crowning act of all their wickedness and villiany was committed by our ungodly foe in removing the dead from the vaults in the cemetery, and robbing the coffins of the silver name plates and tippings, and depositing their own dead in the vaults.

"I have the honor to be, Respectfully,
Your obedient Servant,
W. P. HOWARD."[285]

Two weeks after General Howard made his report to the Governor, the *Daily Intelligencer,* now returned after a temporary stay in Macon, published an illuminating description of Atlanta as it then appeared. It follows, in full, with notes in parenthesis by the present writer:

"Twenty-five years ago the present site of Atlanta was a forest, which but a few years previous to that time was the abode of the red man. Then a great system of railroads was developed, which brought the line from Savannah to Macon and from Macon in continuation to what is now the Gate City of the South.

"War came, and Atlanta was still a progressive city. Until the spring of the present year population and wealth literally poured into it. As a commercial depot it was in advance of any city in adjoining states. As a financial mart, it rivaled the most progressive cities of the South, and, as a military post, it became second to none save Richmond in importance.

"To the enemy it became a prize, coveted as much as Richmond. Almost superhuman efforts were made to capture and possess it . . . after which, amid the glare of its many burning buildings, the flames rising so as to light the surrounding country for miles and miles. . . . Sherman took up his march to the sea. So much for the past. We must next turn to the present.

"Today, as you approach Atlanta from either side, you no longer find it hidden from view by the dense forest of trees which a few months ago obstructed the eye of the traveler. For miles around scarcely a tree is standing, and within a few miles of the city, fire and the ax have destroyed habitations and laid waste fields.

"As you reach the city limits, you see the awful effects of one vast conflagration. A city destroyed by fire! Two-thirds at least devoured by flames. Doomed to utter desolation, one-third of Atlanta still lives. This will be the nucleus, the cornerstone, the foundation upon which the city will again be restored. Of this, more anon.

"We will take, as our starting point, the place where the four principal streets converge, to-wit: Whitehall, Peachtree, Marietta and Decatur. That point is Hunnicutt's Drug Store (on the point between Decatur and Edgewood, fronting on Peachtree).

"We will first extend our walk out Peachtree. The first is the business house in which was the beautiful drug store mentioned. This is all a heap of ruins, which the torch of the evening has occasioned. Nearly opposite was the building for a long time occupied as a barracks, and latterly as an auction and commission house. This has shared the same fate. In a northerly direction, we find on our left a small wooden building in Judson's marble yard that escaped the ravaging element. After this we see on this street nothing but the ruins of A. C. Wyly & Co.'s large commission house and the business houses on our right known as Cherokee Block (northeast corner Peachtree and Cherokee, now Edgewood Avenue), and Winship's Buildings, which were among the largest edifices in the city. They were in number about twenty, three stories high, with cellars. A great deal of the business of Atlanta was done in these buildings.

"The second building standing is a small wooden one owned by Dr. Tucker, of Penfield, and, at the time of our giving up the city, occupied by Ralls as a family grocer. The mansions of Sasseen (southwest corner Broad and Luckie) and Ezzard (Piedmont Hotel site-Peachtree) stand, though one of them bears the mark of shells. The Wesley Chapel remains (opposite Ezzard on Peachtree), but horribly desecrated. It is left more in the condition of a hog pen than the house of God. After this, Peachtree has suffered but little until we reach the suburbs of the city, when occasionally we find a home torn down to build huts. We extended our walk on this street to Colonel R. A. Crawford's, and were surprised that the vandals should even have spared the fences and shrubbery of this favored street. From Ralls' store to the dwelling house of Mrs. Luckie (site of Doctor's Bldg., parking lot) all the dwellings remain except Mr. (T. R.) Ripley's, Mr. (Thos. F.) Grubb's (northeast corner Currier), Rev. Mr. Pinkerton's and a house built by J. R. Wallace.

"The street which we next notice as it stands, but in striking contrast, is Marietta. This street runs in a parallel direction with the W. & A. Railroad for the distance of a mile and a quarter. All the business houses on it are destroyed. After this no house on either side is completely destroyed for the space of a block and as far as the residence of Mr. Goode (Glenn Building site), which is standing.

"Destructive shells, however, have penetrated them all. The Presbyterian Church received half a dozen or more, which at one time, we learn, drove out a number of citizens that had sought it as a place of refuge and safety. We examined the house of Mr. (John) Silvey (southeast corner Spring), which stands on top of the first rise, and found it pierced through and through with shells, some of which exploded in the very midst of the building, causing great destruction. We counted as many as twenty shell marks on the premises of this single house.

"After passing Mr. (Hamilton) Goode's house, the torch has been applied to every building on this street, its entire length, with the exception of the residences of (Lemuel) Dean (corner Jones Avenue), (J. G. W.) Mills (corner Alexander Street), and Mrs. (Felix) Sowers' (between Pine and Corput streets) and a few insignificant structures immediately east of Marshall's Sword Factory. The men assigned to the work of destroying Marietta Street did their duty recklessly. Nothing but charred ruins are left to mark the spots of business houses, private residences, the sword and button factories, and the grist mill.

"Whitehall Street is an entire ruin except the space extending from Roark's corner (southwest corner Mitchell Street) to Captain (V. A.) Gaskill's residence, which is left standing (near Garnett Street). Those acquainted with the city will know what amount of destruction this implies. Full one-half the business houses of Atlanta are included in this count.

"On this street was the residence of Colonel J. S. Thrasher, the superintendent of the Press Association, situated in a plot of ground of twenty acres. Nothing but a small outhouse is left. The tasteful and ornamental residences near the Macon and Western Railroad have ceased to be. Millions of dollars, even in peace times, would not suffice to restore this wreck of its former beauty. It is a matter of surprise that the block on Whitehall bounded on the north by Mitchell and on the south by Peters (Trinity Avenue) Street, should have been suffered to remain. An old gentleman of 73 winters, who resided in one of the buildings in this block, has given us the reason. He informs us that the order had been given to fire this portion of the city also, but on his reporting to the authorities that a man by the name of Baker, who lived near him, was at the time in the agonies of death, both blocks were spared.

"The next street that claims our attention is Decatur. On this were the two principal hotels, the Atlanta Hotel and the Trout House. Both of these have been burned, and also the Washington Hall, on the Georgia Railroad, another house of entertainment. The business houses on Decatur Street have all been consumed except the one under the Masonic Hall, which the square and compass, symbols of the mystic brotherhood, saved, and a few small wooden buildings. For the space of 300 yards on this street, beginning with the spot where stood the Christian Church, and ending where the government armory was located, the private dwellings have been left. After these, for the remainder of the street, some three miles in the direction of Decatur, all the dwellings on either side have been burned, with two or three trifling exceptions. In this burning, the fine mansion of General L. J. Gartrell (north side of Decatur just east of Yonge Street) who, we regret to say, was recently wounded, has yielded to the devouring element.

"Having disposed of these principal streets, let us pay our attention to others.

"On the street in the rear of the Trout House (Line Street, now Exchange Place) every house was burned.

"On Butler Street every house is safe except Mr. (J. J.) Toon's.

"On Calhoun (Piedmont Avenue) Street every house stands except Joseph Barnes' (between Gilmer and Armstrong streets) and the brick house adjoining.

"On Ivy Street the houses destroyed are those of A. M. Wallace and all on the same block (between Auburn Avenue and Houston Street), E. B. Walker's, badly injured, Joseph Wyly's, Cleveland's, and the house on the corner of Ivy and Houston. John Glen's was injured.

"On Walton Street nearly every house destroyed.

"On Pryor Street all standing from Alabama Street to (Edw. E.) Rawson's house (corner Rawson Street), except the Kilby boarding house (west side between Alabama and Hunter) and a house C. C. Hewly lived in, and the house opposite. From Rawson's out all destroyed except the one Mr. Coleman built.

"On Washington Street the houses are all standing except that of W. P. Inman, the house adjoining and the two opposite.

"On Crew Street all houses are standing except that built by E. E. Rawson, the one occupied by F. M. Richardson, the one owned and occupied by T. S. Stoy, and the one owned by E. Buice (between Fair and Woodward Avenue).

"On McDonough (Capitol Avenue) Street, from City Hall to Ball's house, all the buildings stand except those of John M. Clarke (corner Clarke Street), James Morris, Williams and B. T. Lamb. From Mr. Ball's out all destroyed (J. M. Ball lived at corner of Rawson).

"On Hunter Street all houses stand except Reid's, Browning's and one old house occupied as a hospital. Every house between McDonough and Fair streets destroyed except L. P. Grant's[286] (Harrison), Pettus (northeast corner Rawson and Martin streets), and one in the rear of Williams on Frazer Street.

"On Fair Street all stand except two owned by Marshal (Oliver H.) Jones, two belonging to Z. R. Jones (father of O. H.), and the two opposite Dr. (W. P.) Harden's (corner Hill Street), and Dr. Grant's.

"If you run a line from Walton Spring (rear of Bona Allen Building), nearly south to the Mineral Spring (north end of present Terminal Station train sheds), then southwest to Thomas Scrutchins' on Mitchell Street (southwest corner Mangum Street), then southeast to the Protestant Church (Forsyth and Garnett streets), then south to Colonel L. J. Glenn's (corner Cooper and Rawson streets), nearly every house is destroyed.

"Lynch's building, between the Western and Atlantic Railroad and Lambert's garden is destroyed (neighborhood of Simpson and Vine streets). All "Snake Nation" (neighborhood of Peters and Fair streets) is destroyed. The block of business houses on Alabama Street, on which is the Gate City Hotel is left. Edwardy's and Joiner's magnificent mansions are destroyed (present Boulevard and East Avenue section—the E. M. Edwardy home stood on the site of the Georgia Baptist Hospital).

"The railroads are destroyed in the completest manner by burning the crossties and bending and twisting the iron. As you stand on the crossing at Whitehall and look up the Western and Atlantic Railroad the piles of crossties are so numerous and spread out to such an extent as to remind one of the ocean when its waves are raised by a brisk wind. It is an ocean of ruins.

"The walls of the extensive and elegant car shed were battered down by battering rams. Two Baptist Churches (First and Second), two Methodist (Wesley Chapel and Trinity), two Presbyterian (First and Central), the Catholic and one Episcopal Church, St. Philip's, are all the churches left.

"The fire is represented by those who beheld it to have been terrific. The city, from center to circumference, was enveloped in a sheet of flames, which, in the opinion of those who witnessed it, was to have consumed all, or nearly all, the buildings in the city. By the failure of the fire fiends to perform the task assigned to them of destroying private dwellings, nearly one out of three escaped, while of the whole real estate of the city fully five-sixths in values have been laid in ashes.

"The enemy burned Fire Engine Number Two and the material of 'Hook and Ladder Company', shipped north Numbers One and Four, leaving Number Three in a badly damaged state.

"The stillness of the grave for weeks reigned over this once bustling, noisy city. No whistle from railroad engines, no crowing of cocks, no grunting of hogs, no braying of mules, no lowing of cows, no whirring of machinery, no sound of hammer and saw—nothing but the howling of dogs was heard in our midst.

"The human voice was hushed in our streets, no pedestrians on Whitehall, no children in the streets, no drays, no wagons, no glorious sound of the Gospel in the churches; the theater was hushed in the silence of death. Ruin, universal ruin, was the exclamation of all. It is true that the same sun shines over our heads, the same healthful breeze sweeps over our hills, the same refreshing draughts of water flow from under the ground, but all else has changed.

"We can only liken Atlanta to Moscow after her own citizens had fired it; but a merciful God has not suffered it to be like Babylon and Tyre, like Thebes or Palmyra. The energy for which her citizens have been distinguished has already begun to manifest itself. But so much for the past and present of Atlanta. Let us now look to its future!

"That which built Atlanta and made it a flourishing city will again restore it, purified, we trust, in many particulars by the fiery ordeal through which it has passed. Soon the whistles of the steam engines will again be heard in its limits and soon the cars from Macon and Montgomery and Augusta will bear their burdens into and through our city. Ere long, too, we feel confident that the State Road will be in process of reconstruction, a portion at least of it being engaged in transporting to it the rich produce of Cherokee Georgia. Let no one despond as to the future of our city!

"The business portion of it, now in ruins, is in the main the property of individuals who have abundant means to clear away the ruins and rebuild. What Atlanta now first needs is energetic, good government. This, combined with devoted loyalty and enterprise on the part of her citizens, and she will soon rise from her ashes.

"Atlanta also needs such legislation, as under its peculiar condition, our city has a right to ask from congress, and the state legislature must be speedily invoked and we doubt not what is to be asked will be promptly granted.

"But her citizens must put their own shoulders to the wheel, and push hard themselves, to get her out of the slough into which she has been cast. Efforts like these will soon restore her to her former greatness."[287]

Thus, four months before the war ended, and unable to foresee the harsh days of reconstruction that lay ahead, the *Intelligencer* made a brave prophecy. In due time it was destined to come true, and to a degree impossible for the optimistic editor of late 1864 to visualize.

Conditions as they existed in the country immediately south of Atlanta, in what is now the Black Hall District and the Perkerson Park, Sylvan Hills and Lakewood sections, are graphically portrayed in a letter written December 2, 1864. Writer of the letter was Miss Lizzie Perkerson, a daughter of Thomas J. Perkerson (1804-1878), second sheriff of Fulton County and pioneer settler of the Black Hall District. Written from her father's home, built during the 1830's and still standing on Perkerson Road, some three miles from Five Points in the Sylvan Hills section, the letter was addressed to her brother Angus M. Perkerson (1843-1895), then a soldier of the Confederate army in Virginia, and later to follow in his father's footsteps as sheriff of Fulton County. He was the father of Angus M. Perkerson, editor of the *Journal Magazine,* and of the late E. J., W. T., and Harry M. Perkerson, of Atlanta.[288]

Some extracts from Miss Perkerson's letter follow, with notations in parenthesis by the present writer:

". . . Pa's place has not got 200 rails on it, and not a building of any kind except the house and the old kitchen and the smoke house. We have got one hog, four chickens, two old Yankee mules and ten dogs. We have ten cows down in Clarke County, and Dempse (another brother) has Gray with them. All our Negroes are at home and they are the only ones in the neighborhood. You can't imagine how it would take the Yankees down to see a whole gang of old Negroes and children go straggling along. We would tell them to look, yonder are some more of Sherman's reinforcements.

"Terry's place (Stephen Terry, at what is now Lakewood) looks like it had been swept with a brush broom. Adam Pool's house hasn't a board on it—I never heard a Yankee say 'plank' in my life. Miss Ann Mangum's houses are all gone, so are Rob Mangum's (near Mt. Zion Methodist Church on Stewart Avenue), Graham's, Lily's and the church (Mt. Zion). The church Bible is now lying up in the camps where they tried to burn it and failed in the attempt. Old man (Stephen) Terry stayed at home until they took everything he had, and then went off and let them ruin his house. They took the bolting cloth off his mill, but didn't destroy the mill. They are fixing it up to grind now. The old man is gone to South Carolina and John (Terry, a son) to Mississippi. The last I heard of Adam Pool he was in Jones County, Georgia, still refugeeing.

"Dr. (William) Gilbert moved down in Henry, and about the time the Yankees came in here he went to South Carolina and got a place to move to, and started, and the second day after he started he fell off his horse, dead in the road. His family buried him by the roadside and went on.

"Cousin Mary and Will's children are at grandma's. The Yankees burned Will's houses and took all the stock. Grandma (Ferguson—T. J. Perkerson married Isabella Ferguson, also of Fulton, then De Kalb County) says indeed she gave one of them three very good licks. He was taking the wheat out of the wheat house and the paddling stick was close by. She just put it to him.

"The Yankees took pretty near all they could get from grandpa (Dempsey Perkerson—1778-1875, father of T. J., who lived in Panthersville District of De Kalb County on South River). They got all his horses, mules, cows and oxen. Pa will start down there Monday to help grandpa haul his corn. He sent word if Pa would come haul it he would give him part of it, so he will go, as corn is an object just at the moment. Pa sent by Stokes last week to La Grange to get 100 bushels at $5 per bushel. He saved about 40 bushels of wheat. Pa is sowing wheat now on Jerry's place (Jeremiah S. Gilbert, whose home still stands on Perkerson Road between Lakewood and Stewart Avenues). His bottom fencing was left. All Pa will tend this year will be down there. We are making our calculations to live rather hard next year. But if we can live at all, I am not afraid that we will perish."

After several paragraphs relative to sickness in the family and the difficulty of securing medical attention, the letter continues:

"They all fear that I am taking the fever now, but I hope not. I feel very badly, but I have gone through enough to make a stouter person than me feel badly. I hadn't undressed to go to bed in a month until last night. There had been a great deal of sickness in this country since the army came in here. But I don't think strange of it. The whole country is full of dead horses and mules, and the ditches standing full of stagnant water, enough to kill anything. We have but few soldiers left in these parts now.

"The Yankees broke our loom all to pieces and burned it, but we have just got another one, and if we can get any wool carded we will make you some clothes yet. It is Ma's greatest trouble for fear you are in need and she can't help you. Do you need any drawers or shirts, let us know.

"I believe I'll wind up for this time. I know you begin to think it time to close. Write us soon as you get this. Good-bye from

LIZZIE."[289]

Later, "Miss Lizzie," having seen so many Yankees, married one—Sumner E. Butler (1831-1886), a native of Otsego County, New York. She lived to the age of 97, dying in the old house in which she wrote the letter, on April 25, 1934. Together with her husband, parents, brother Angus, and other members of the family, Mrs. Butler lies buried in the cemetery of old Mount Zion Methodist Church on Stewart Avenue.[290]

A small detachment of Confederate and State troops occupied Atlanta early in December, 1864, and once again the stars and bars floated from the

City Hall flagstaff. On November 26th General Howell Cobb, then at Macon, assigned Lt. Colonel Luther J. Glenn, of Cobb's Legion, former mayor, to the command of the Post of Atlanta, and, on December 5th, Captain Thomas L. Dodd assumed the duties of provost-marshal.[291]

That the Confederate army was still acutely in need of manpower is emphasized by the following order from the commander of the Fulton County Militia, issued in Atlanta on December 8th:

"In obedience to the proclamation of Governor Brown of the 19th ultimo, all persons in Fulton County between the ages of sixteen and fifty-five are subject to military duty, except those who are exempted in the proclamation. All who are subject will report at the city hall without delay, at Judge [Jethro W.] Manning's office for further orders.

Z. A. Rice,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding."[292]

By December 15th a correspondent of the Augusta, Georgia, *Chronicle and Sentinel* was able to report to his paper a few evidences of progress in Atlanta:

"Many of the old citizens are returning, and the general watchword is repair and rebuild. Whit Anderson has opened a bar-room on Decatur Street, where he serves his customers with dignity and grace, and Sid Holland a small grocery on Peachtree Street. The *Intelligencer* has returned, and is now issuing an extra from the old shoe factory on Alabama Street. J. J. Toon has secured the old pay office on Whitehall Street for an office, and resides in Markham's fine villa on Walton Street. The post office is open on Decatur Street, under the charge of the energetic Dick Wall, and Bob Yancey has his shaving emporium next door. Johnson Bridwell has started a salt factory. Col. L. J. Glenn, the efficient commandant of the post, is considered the right man in the right place. He is courteous to all, yet rigidly attentive to the interests of the government and the people. The Macon & Western Railroad is running to Lovejoy's Station and the Atlanta & La Grange Railroad to Palmetto. The city is filled with thousands of dogs and cats, ownerless and almost wild."[293]

A day later the *Intelligencer* informed its readers that the Green and Howell's Ferry, a few miles below the crossing of the W. & A. R. R., is the only one open on the Chattahoochee River from Warsaw to Campbellton.[294]

The old man with the long white beard, hour glass and scythe reaped a large harvest on the battlefields of 1864. But he also found time to cut down some of the patriarchs and pioneers of the Atlanta area during the year. The deaths of Hardy Pace and John L. Evins, both in 1864, have been noted.

Samuel Walker was born in Georgia in 1791, and came to Fulton, then De Kalb County, from Greene County during the 1820's. He acquired part of the land whereon Piedmont Park is now located. Here he farmed and operated a mill on Clear Creek at about the point where a bridge over that stream and the Southern Railway belt line connects Piedmont Park with Boulevard Park. Later Mr. Walker moved his home to the Peachtree Road ridge, settling on that road at approximately the present northeast corner of 12th Street. This home was burned during the war, but after Walker's death which occurred in February, 1864. He was originally buried in his family cemetery upon the hill where now stands the Della Manta Apartment at Piedmont Avenue and South Prado. This cemetery was abandoned in May, 1897, at which time the bodies were removed to Oakland Cemetery. Among Samuel Walker's children by his first wife, Sarah Oliver, were James F. and Benjamin F. Walker. The former, long a Fulton County justice of the peace, was the father of Samuel G. Walker, late well-known art and picture frame dealer. It was from Benjamin F. Walker that the Gentlemen's Driving Club, predecessor of the Piedmont Driving Club, bought its present property in 1887. One of the millstones from Samuel Walker's Clear Creek mill now adorns the facade of the club building. A daughter of Benjamin F. Walker, Mrs. Lola Walker Clement, widow of Frank L. Clement, still resides on part of the original Walker estate at the southwest corner of Piedmont Avenue and 15th Street.[295]

Terrence Doonan, founder of the well-known family of that name in Atlanta, was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, in 1811, and emigrated to America, where he took up residence in Augusta, Georgia, in 1836. In 1846 he came to Atlanta with the Georgia Railroad which he helped to build, and established himself as a successful cotton factor. He died March 22, 1864, and was buried at his old home, Augusta.[296]

One of the most extensive land owners of early Atlanta was Ammi Williams. He was born in Connecticut in 1780; brought up in Virginia, and was attracted to Georgia by the discovery of gold around Dahlonega in the early 1830's. He came to De Kalb County during the same decade and acquired extensive holdings, with Reuben Cone, in Land Lot No. 78, which now includes much of downtown Atlanta. Like Judge Cone, he gave his name to a street originating in that land lot. Mr. Williams died at his home in Decatur on March 30, 1864, survived by his wife, neé Laura Loomis, and several children, and lies buried under a large monument in Oakland Cemetery. Two of his sons-in-law were Lemuel P. Grant and William H. Dabney, the latter a member of the Atlanta bar for many years.[297]

By the end of the year a number of Atlanta's substantial citizens had returned from their brief exile. Among them were Mayor James M. Calhoun, Oliver H. Jones, Dr. J. F. Alexander, John W. Duncan, William M. Butt, Robert J. Cowart, Perino Brown, Dr. J. N. Simmons, Er Lawshe, L. S. Salmon, J. H. Porter, Jared I. Whitaker, N. J. Hammond, Rev. Henry C. Hornady, Alvin K. Seago, George W. Lee, W. W. Roark, Cicero H. Strong, W. L. Hubbard, W. P. Howard, John G. Pounds, John Collier, B. N. Williford, Thomas R. Ripley, F. M. Richardson, L. S. Mead, T. W. J. Hill, E. R. Sasseen, Jethro W. Manning, and J. G. McLin.[298]

These and other returning citizens found their beloved city a picture of abject desolation. As they made their individual ways through the business streets, humming with activity a few months before, they gazed upon tumble down walls inclosing masses of loose brick. Fragments of tin roofing blocked the streets and became entangled in the wheels of vehicles. Blackened chimneys rose starkly where comfortable homes had been, and as a backdrop, out on the hills, the red clay fortifications stood out in bold relief, silent reminders of war's grim meaning. Here and there, emerging from a corner of some ruined building where a mass of tin roofing had been placed to afford a wretched abode, were seen Negro children, clad only in tow sacks with openings at the corners for armholes. And everywhere were lean and hungry dogs and cats, searching and fighting over stray scraps of food.

It was indeed a prospect to discourage all but the most determined. Yet hope springs eternal, and with a total of $1.64 in the city treasury[299] and visions of a greater city, coupled with the immediate necessity of earning a living, the returning citizens doffed their coats, rolled up their sleeves and went to work.

By Christmas Day, at least one of the amenities was enjoyed, when Dr. Henry C. Hornady preached the first post-war sermon at the First Baptist Church. It was a message of hope, and of prophecy.[300]

And so we find Atlanta, at the end of its year of greatest travail, not happy, not prosperous, and by no means intact—but at least alive, and with hope for a better future.

NOTES—CHAPTER 42

[1] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] *Ibid.; Daily Intelligencer,* May 11, 1864.

[4] *Daily Intelligencer,* May 11, 1864.

[5] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1899, p. 581.

[6] Reed, *Atlanta,* 248.

[7] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 89; Earl S. Miers, *The General who Marched to Hell* (New York, 1951), 133.

[8] Reed, *Atlanta,* 248.

[9] *Ibid.*

[10] Johnston lived on Power's Ferry Road in what is now North Fulton Park.

[11] 34 *Ga. Reports,* 10, "The State *vs.* J. A. Caldwell and Others."

[12] "L. P. Grant Papers—Defenses of Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* VI (Feb., 1932), 32-35.

[13] *Ibid.*

[14] Marguerite Steedman, "Atlanta Fort Restored," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* May 2, 1937.

[15] "L. P. Grant Papers—Defenses of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[16] Steedman, "Atlanta Fort Restored," *loc. cit.*

[17] *Ibid.;* "Grant Papers," *loc. cit.* Grant's original plans are owned by the Atlanta Historical Society.

[18] "Grant Papers," *loc. cit.*

[19] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Embattled Atlanta," *Atlanta Constitution,* July 20, 1930.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] *Ibid.* Checked on the ground by the present writer, July 3, 1951.

[24] Kurtz, "Embattled Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[25] "Grant Papers," *loc. cit.*

[26] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1864, Book D.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] Reed, *Atlanta,* 184-185.

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] *Ibid.,* 186.

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] *Ibid.,* 187.

[37] Harrison, "Volunter Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 249-250.

[38] John M. Harrison, "John Henry Mecaslin," *A.H.B.,* XIII (Apr., 1938), 120-125.

[39] *Ibid.,* 123.

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] U. S. Department of the Interior, *The Atlanta Campaign and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park* (Washington, 1949). Hereafter cited as Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[42] *Ibid.*

[43] Jacob D. Cox, *Campaigns of the Civil War,* IX, *Atlanta* (New York, 1882), 247-249. Hereafter cited as Cox, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[44] *Ibid.,* 250-252.

[45] Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] *Ibid.*

[48] *Ibid.;* Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Atlanta Campaign and Gone With the Wind," *The Red Barrel* (The Coca-Cola Co., Magazine, Dec., 1939); George C. Osborn, "The Atlanta Campaign," *G.H.Q.,* (Dec., 1950).

[49] Osborn, "Atlanta Campaign," *loc. cit.*

[50] Kurtz, "Atlanta Campaign and Gone With the Wind," *loc. cit.*

[51] *Ibid.;* Osborn, "Atlanta Campaign," *loc. cit.; Sherman's Memoirs,* II, 44.

[52] Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign;* Kurtz, "Atlanta Campaign and Gone With the Wind," *loc. cit.*

[53] Wilbur G. Kurtz to Franklin M. Garrett, July 30, 1951.

[54] Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[55] *Ibid.*

[56] Osborn, "Atlanta Campaign," *loc. cit.,* 280.

[57] Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[58] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "St. Luke's Baptized by War," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 3, 1932.

[59] Dr. Quintard returned the handkerchief to its owner, Nellie Peters, then a young girl, but subsequently the wife of Georgia Congressman George R. Black.

[60] Authorities for the section pertaining to wartime St. Luke's Church are herewith cited in one footnote: Rev. Arthur H. Nall, ed., *Dr. Quintard, Chaplain C.S.A., and Second Bishop of Tennessee, Being His Story of the War, 1861-1865* (Sewanee, Tenn., 1905); Alex M. Hitz, "The Origin and Distinction Between the Two Protestant Episcopal Churches Known as St. Luke's, Atlanta," *G.H.Q.,* (Mar., 1950); Wilbur G. Kurtz, "St. Luke's Baptized by War," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 3, 1932; "How St. Luke's Was Built," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Oct. 6, 1935.

[61] Reed, *Atlanta,* 158.

[62] *Ibid.*

[63] *Ibid.,* 159.

[64] *Ibid.*

[65] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign.* Contemporary sites noted by the present writer.

[66] Dept., Interior, *Atlanta Campaign.*

[67] U. S. War Department, *The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies* (70 vols. in 128, Washington, 1880-1901), Series I, Vol., XXXVIII, part 5, p. 14 *ff.* Hereafter cited as *O.R.* All references are to Series I unless otherwise indicated.

[68] Referring to the Soap Creek Paper Mills, situated on that stream just above its confluence with the Chattahoochee, and on property now owned by John A. Sibley, of Atlanta. The old stone ruins of the mill buildings, as destroyed by a subsequent fire in 1902, yet stand.

[69] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 60.

[70] *Ibid.,* 68.

[71] Present intersection of Dixie Highway, U. S. 41, and Pace's Ferry Road from Vinings.

[72] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 69.

[73] *Ibid.,* 76-77.

[74] Judge Lewis C. Russell, "Georgia Towns Moved in War," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 28, 1932.

[75] *Ibid.*

[76] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, pp. 92-93.

[77] *Ibid.,* 85; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The 23rd Corps at Soap Creek," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Oct. 26, 1930.

[78] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 140.

[79] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, pp. 872-873.

[80] *Ibid.,* 873.

[81] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Sept. 28, 1930.

[82] *Ibid.*

[83] *Ibid.* Kurtz says that Mrs. Johnston had been in Atlanta during the greater part of the Atlanta Campaign—since May 16th at the earliest.

[84] Niles Avenue, NW., nearby, is named for Dexter Niles.

[85] Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *loc. cit.* Site last visited by the present writer, July 21, 1951.

[86] Erroneously referred to by Johnston in his dispatches as the "Nelson" house.

[87] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, 109, *ff.*

[88] The present writer has never been able to satisfy himself as to the exact location of Kyle's Bridge, but hazards a guess that it was either at the present Pace's Ferry Road or Randall Mill Road crossing of Nancy Creek, or at some point between.

[89] Known also as Holcombe's Bridge. Crosses the Chattahoochee from Gwinnett to Forsyth County at the Old Alabama Road.

[90] A short distance north of the present site of Norcross, which was non-existent in 1864.

[91] Referring to the residence of J. W. Buchanan, a pioneer resident of De Kalb County, located on Peachtree Road a short distance north of the present site of Doraville (then non-existent), where the Hightower Trail crosses Peachtree Road at the Gwinnett County line.

[92] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, pp. 142-143.

[93] *Ibid.,* 144. The *Intelligencer* took temporary refuge in Macon.

[94] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Military Operations, June 22-July 17, 1864." Unpublished map, prepared 1937. In possession of Mr. Kurtz.

[95] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, pp. 145, 151.

[96] Kurtz, Map, 1937. See Note 94.

[97] Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *loc. cit.*

[98] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 878.

[99] Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *loc. cit.*

[100] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 879.

[101] *Ibid.*, 881.

[102] *Ibid.*, 882.

[103] *Ibid.*, 883.

[104] Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *loc. cit.*

[105] *Ibid.; Huff, My 80 Years in Atlanta,* 20. Huff House, 70 Huff Road, NW., is still standing.

[106] Kurtz, "At the Dexter Niles House," *loc. cit.*

[107] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 885.

[108] *Ibid.*

[109] *Ibid.*, 887.

[110] *Ibid.*, 889.

[111] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 148.

[112] Wiley, *The Life of Johnny Reb,* 241.

[113] John P. Dyer, *The Gallant Hood* (Indianapolis, 1950), 248.

[114] *Ibid.*

[115] General Hood lost his right leg at the Battle of Chickamauga in Sept., 1863.

[116] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 166.

[117] *Ibid.*, 167.

[118] "Garrett's Necrology."

[119] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 175.

[120] Pea Vine Creek rises between the Georgia Railroad and Druid Hills; flows almost due north through the Druid Hills golf course, and empties into the South fork of Peachtree Creek a short distance south of where Briarcliff Road crosses the Seaboard R. R.

[121] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, pp. 179-180.

[122] *Ibid.*, 169-170.

[123] *Ibid.*, 209.

[124] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 146.

[125] *Ibid.*, 147.

[126] The stream running through Piedmont Park.

[127] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 147; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Atlanta in the Summer of 1864," *Inn Dixie Magazine* (Dinkler Hotels, Jan., 1936).

[128] Hiram H. Embry (1805-1877), a native of Oglethorpe County, Georgia, settled in De Kalb Couny in 1828. He is buried under the lone stone box tomb in front of the North Side Park Baptist Church (formerly Mt. Zion) at 1877 Howell Mill Road, NW.

[129] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 185; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Story of Kennesaw," *Atlanta Constitution,* June 30, 1935.

[130] A son of the pioneer, Dr. Chapman Powell.

[131] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 193.

[132] Jesse Wood (1801-1882), born in South Carolina, settled in Fulton, then De Kalb County, in 1825. His farm of several hundred acres lay just north of the present Atlantic Steel Company and west of the Southern Railway's Peachtree Station. Judge Jesse M. Wood, of Fulton Superior Court, is a grandson.

[133] Kurtz, "Story of Kennesaw," *loc. cit.*

[134] *Ibid.;* Kurtz, "Atlanta in the Summer of 1864," loc. cit.

[135] *O.R.*, XXXVIII, part 5, p. 137.

[136] *Ibid.*, 211.

[137] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 371.

[138] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 21, 1944; *Atlanta Journal,* July 21, 1944.

[139] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.;* Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Walter Q. Gresham at Atlanta," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Aug. 24, 1930.

[140] Kurtz, "Gresham at Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[141] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[142] *Ibid.;* Wilbur G. Kurtz, "5000 Killed in Battle of Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 27, 1941; Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Major-General W. H. T. Walker," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* July 27, 1930.

[143] Not then designated as such.

[144] Kurtz, "5000 Killed in Battle of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[145] *Ibid.*

[146] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[147] Kurtz, "5000 Killed in Battle of Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[148] *Ibid.*

[149] *Ibid.;* Kurtz, "General Walker," *loc. cit.*

[150] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[151] *Ibid.* The battery was posted atop the hill now occupied by the Murphy High School, 1425 Memorial Drive, SE.

[152] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[153] *Ibid.;* Kurtz, "Walter Q. Gresham," *loc. cit.*

[154] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Augustus F. Hurt House," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* June 22, 1930.

[155] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology;" *City Directory,* 1859, p. 105.

[156] Not so designated in 1864. The area was then simply part of the rural environs of Atlanta.

[157] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[158] *Ibid.; O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 232.

[159] Kurtz, "Hurt House," *loc. cit.;* "Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.;* Embattled Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[160] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 171.

[161] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[162] *Ibid.*

[163] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "At the Troup Hurt House," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Jan. 25, 1931.

[164] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[165] *Ibid.;* Wilbur G. Kurtz, "The Broken Line and the De Gress Battery," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Feb. 8, 1931; *O.R.,* V, 275.

[166] Kurtz, "At the Troup Hurt House," *loc. cit.*

[167] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 167; Robert M. Ervin, "Decatur's Role in the Battle for Atlanta," *De Kalb New Era,* July 19, 1951.

[168] Ervin, "Decatur's Role," *loc. cit.*

[169] Dyer, *The Gallant Hood,* 261.

[170] Marguerite Steedman, "Atlanta Fort Restored," *loc. cit.*

[171] *Ibid.*

[172] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[173] Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 177, *ff.*

[174] *Ibid.,* 181.

[175] Fulton County Deed Book C, 437-438.

[176] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[177] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Where to Find History in Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 17, 1935.

[178] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[179] *Ibid.;* Kurtz, "Where to Find History," *loc. cit.;* Kurtz, "Embattled Atlanta," *loc. cit.; O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 3, p. 872.

[180] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[181] *Ibid.*

[182] *Ibid.*

[183] *Ibid.*

[184] Kurtz, "Where to Find History," *loc. cit.*

[185] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.;* Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 664.

[186] Kurtz, "Where to Find History," *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology;" *City Directory,* 1859, p. 136.

[187] Kurtz, "Embattled Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[188] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Dugout Home in Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 10, 1932.

[189] *Ibid.*

[190] *Ibid.*

[191] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[192] Kurtz, "Dugout Home," *loc. cit.*

[193] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[194] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 499; *O.R.,* V, 213; Mollie Smith, "Dodging Shells in Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Mar. 24, 1929.

[195] Wilbur G. Kurtz to Franklin M. Garrett, July, 1951.

[196] Geary's battery was posted at 8th Street and Howell Mill Road. It was this battery that inflicted such heavy damage at the Ponder house, which stood between it and Atlanta.

[197] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 449.

[198] Reed, *Atlanta,* 191-192.

[199] Mary Davis, "Shell-Scarred Lamp Post Relic of Atlanta War Days," *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 5, 1928.

[200] Reed, *Atlanta,* 192.

[201] *Ibid.,* 187-188; "Garrett's Necrology;" *City Directory,* 1859.

[202] Reed, *Atlanta,* 187-188.

[203] *Ibid.,* 190.

[204] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 498-499.

[205] *Ibid.,* 499; J. B. Hood, *Advance and Retreat* (New Orleans, La., 1880), 299, *passim.*

[206] Mr. Richards was apparently unaware of the Battle of Ezra Church on July 28th.

[207] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[208] *Ibid.*

[209] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Last Battle Near Atlanta" [Jonesboro], *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 26, 1933.

[210] *Ibid.*

[211] Kurtz, "Atlanta in Summer of 1864," *loc. cit.*

[212] *Ibid.*

[213] Kurtz, "Last Battle Near Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[213a] Kurtz to Garrett, Aug. 28, 1951; Cox, *Atlanta Campaign,* 202-203.

[214] Reed, *Atlanta,* 193.

[215] *Ibid.*

[216] *Ibid.,* 194; Dyer, *The Gallant Hood,* 270; Miers, *The General Who Marched to Hell,* 179; *Heart Songs Dear to the American People* (Boston, 1909), 242.

[217] Reed, *Atlanta,* 194.

[218] *Ibid.; O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 778.

[219] Reed, *Atlanta,* 194.

[220] *Ibid.,* 195.

[221] *Ibid.*

[222] *Ibid.,* 196.

[223] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 764.

[224] *Ibid.*

[225] Reed, *Atlanta,* 196; "Garrett's Necrology."

[226] Kurtz, "Embattled Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[227] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 597.

[228] *Ibid.*

[229] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 768.

[230] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 603.

[231] Wilbur G. Kurtz, "Leave Atlanta Within Five Days," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Oct. 12, 1941.

[232] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 604.

[233] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 763; Slocum was probably referring to the Battle of Jonesboro, but was not sure of the locale.

[234] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 778.

[235] A now vanished town in originally Fayette, now Clayton County, on the Macon & Western (C. of Ga.) R. R., between the present towns of Hapeville and Forest Park. The locality has long been known as Mountain View.

[236] On Flint River near Riverdale Road, Clayton County.

[237] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 801.

[238] Elinor Hillyer, "New City Hall Where Sherman Made Headquarters," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Sept. 4, 1927; "Garrett's Necrology."

[239] Hillyer, "New City Hall," *loc. cit.*

[240] *Ibid.*

[241] *Ibid.;* city directories, 1870-1929.

[242] *Atlanta Journal,* Feb. 23, 1913; Records, Atlanta Historical Society; "Garrett's Necrology;" city directories, various dates.

[243] *Barnwell's Atlanta Directory,* 1867, p. 28.

[244] *Ibid,* 29; Calhoun Papers, Atlanta Historical Society. None of these houses have stood for many years past. It has been said that Major-General John M. Schofield occupied the Nedom L. Angier home, next to the southeast corner of Washington and Mitchell streets, which is still standing. This, however, in the absence of conclusive evidence, is hard to reconcile, since Schofield was designated to garrison Decatur and not Atlanta.

[245] Reed, *Atlanta,* 201.

[246] Kurtz, "Leave Atlanta Within Five Days," *loc. cit.*

[247] *Ibid.*

[248] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 822.

[249] Reed, *Atlanta,* 201.

[250] *Ibid.,* 202-203.

[251] *O.R.,* XXXVIII, part 5, p. 838.

[252] Kurtz, "Leave Atlanta Within Five Days," *loc. cit.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 204. For a complete enumeration of persons sent South see *A.H.B.,* VI (Feb., 1932), 21-32.

[253] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 624.

[254] *Ibid.,* 626.

[255] Col. Thomas Spencer, "Hood's Five-Month Campaign, Death from Atlanta to Nashville," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Nov. 6, 1938; Hood, *Advance and Retreat,* 252-255.

[256] Spencer, "Hood's Five-Month Campaign," *loc. cit.*

[257] *Ibid.*

[258] *Ibid.*

[259] Wiley, *Life of Johnny Reb,* 121-122.

[260] "Concert After Atlanta Fell," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 6, 1927.

[261] The Colonel was in error—no relation.

[262] The Atheneum was located on the north side of Decatur Street between Peachtree and Pryor streets.

[263] "Concert After Atlanta Fell," *loc. cit.*

[264] *Ibid.*

[265] The W. & A. R. R., by Hood in his October operations just described.

[266] *G.H.Q.* (March, 1949), 49.

[267] *Ibid.*, 51.

[268] Atlanta burned Nov. 14-15. March to sea began, 15-16.

[269] *Sherman's Memoirs,* II, 171.

[270] *Ibid.,* 172.

[271] *Ibid.,* 175-177.

[272] *Ibid.,* 177.

[273] *Ibid.*

[274] *Ibid.,* 179.

[275] *Heart Songs,* 313.

[276] *Sherman's Memoirs,* II, 179.

[277] *Ibid.,* 180.

[278] Osborn, "Atlanta Campaign," *loc. cit.,* 286.

[279] Calhoun, "History of Atlanta Medical College," *loc. cit.*

[280] *Ibid.*

[281] *Ibid.*

[282] "In Memoriam Father Thomas O'Reilly," *A.H.B.,* XXX (Oct., 1945).

[283] *Ibid.*

[284] *Ibid.*

[285] *Macon Daily Telegraph and Confederate,* Dec. 12, 1864.

[286] By "between McDonough and Fair streets" was meant all of southeast Atlanta lying east of McDonough (Capitol Av.) Street and south of Fair (Memorial Dr.) Street. The first L. P. Grant home stood in the midst of a large tract, including the present Grant Park. It still stands, now in a closely built up residential section. The present street address is 327 St. Paul Avenue, SE.

[287] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Dec. 22, 1864. *Cf.* "Atlanta as Sherman Left It," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 7, 1932.

[288] "Lizzie's Letter," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Apr. 23, 1944; "Garrett's Necrology."

[289] "Lizzie's Letter," *loc. cit.*

[290] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[291] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 637.

[292] *Ibid.*

[293] *A.H.B.,* III (May, 1930), 15-20.

[294] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Dec. 16, 1864.

[295] "Garrett's Necrology."

[296] *Ibid.*

[297] *Ibid.*

[298] Reed, *Atlanta,* 208, 249.

[299] Report of J. H. Mecaslin, late City Treasurer, to the Mayor and Council of Atlanta.

[300] Reed, *Atlanta,* 209; Hornady, *Atlanta,* 64.

CHAPTER 43

1865

ON DECEMBER 7, 1864, under the supervision of Edward M. Talliaferro, Jethro W. Manning and James G. McLin, an election had been held for mayor and councilmen. James M. Calhoun, who had guided local municipal affairs since early 1862, was elected for a fourth consecutive term. The council for 1865 was composed of the following gentlemen:

First Ward, John Collier and B. N. Williford.
Second Ward, Lewis S. Salmons and George W. Terry.
Third Ward, Thomas R. Ripley and F. M. Richardson.
Fourth Ward, L. S. Mead and T. W. J. Hill.
Fifth Ward, James N. Simmons and E. R. Sasseen.

T. W. J. Hill declined to serve and in his stead Z. A. Rice was sworn in on March 5, 1865.[1]

Upon taking office, January 6, 1865, the Mayor and Council were confronted with the usual chore of appointing ministerial officers. In this connection a thorny problem immediately arose. The city, having closed the preceeding year with a cash balance of $1.64, had no money for salaries. Furthermore, owing to the great destruction of real and personal property, and of the commercial business of the city, the newly elected city fathers were at a loss as to how to estimate forthcoming revenue, not only with which to pay salaries, but for other operating expenses. It was felt that the times not only demanded good men in office, but adequately paid men.[2]

A committee on salaries, composed of Councilmen Sassen, Richardson and Simmons submitted a report in which they expressed the opinion that the citizens would willingly pay such taxes as would be necessary to secure competent officers. The following salary scale, payable in Confederate money, was recommended and adopted: marshal, $5,000 per year; clerk, $4,000; deputy marshal, $3,500; city attorney, $2,500; city physician, $2,000; treasurer, $2,000; tax receiver and collector, 2½% on taxes collected and 2½% on taxes received; clerk of market, $150 per month; surveyor, $25 per day when actually engaged; sexton, $20 for each interment; first lieutenant of police, $3,500 per year; second lieutenant of police, $2,500; superintendent of streets, $225 per month, and hall-keeper and messenger, $125 per month.[3]

Thereupon the following officers were elected by council: clerk, S. B. Love; marshal, Oliver H. Jones; deputy marshal, Christopher C. Davis; city attorney, N. J. Hammond; treasurer, J. T. Porter; city physician, James W. Price, tax collector and receiver, Robert Crawford; sexton, Green A. Pilgrim; surveyor, W. F. Harris; 1st lieutenant of police, George Stewart; 2nd lieutenant of police, David Howard; superintendent of streets, John Haslett; hall-keeper and messenger, James G. McLin.[4]

With the end of the war in April, Confederate money, by then sadly depreciated in value, became worthless. Consequently, on May 26th, Mayor Calhoun proposed that salaries be placed on a specie or Greenback basis, Greenbacks then being fifty percent below par. The adjusted salaries are indicated by the following examples: clerk, $1,400; marshal, $900; deputy, $650;

treasurer, $500; attorney, $500; physician, $600; superintendent of streets, $500; messenger, $250, all annually, and sexton, $5 for each interment.[5]

On April 14th, the day President Lincoln was fatally wounded by an assassin in Ford's Theater, Washington, Mayor Calhoun was authorized by resolution of Councilman Collier, to borrow $30,000 to $50,000 for 90 days with which to meet expenses. By this time, however, Confederate money had become worthless and and no Greenbacks were to be had. Therefore the mayor had to report to council that he could not succeed in borrowing money for the city.[6]

Another effort was made on June 20th, when an ordinance was adopted authorizing an issue of $20,000 in bonds of small denominations, payable two years after date, bearing interest from date, and receivable at all times for all dues to the city. The denominations were $10, $5, $2, $1, 50¢ and 25¢. Their issue proved to be of great convenience to the citizens, being largely used in lieu of currency.[7] Such were the financial problems of our city officials during the closing days of the War Between the States.

The Atlanta of February, 1865, as seen through a woman's eyes, is mirrored in a letter written on February 10th of that year from Atlanta to Mrs. George W. Adair, Sr. The writer was Octavia Hammond, daughter of Dennis F. and Adeline E. Robinson Hammond and sister of the late Judge William R. Hammond, of Atlanta. Not long afterward she became the wife of Augustus Dixon Adair (1835-1922), founder, in 1866, of the present firm of A. D. Adair & McCarty Brothers, Inc., pioneer commercial fertilizer firm of the city, and now headed by the son and grandson of the founder. Miss Hammond's letter follows:

"Atlanta, Ga.,
Feb. 10th, 1865

Dear Mrs. Adair:

I had about given up all idea of hearing from you again when your welcome letter arrived. I am so very very glad to hear that you think of returning to old Atlanta. I must begin to talk about that the first thing. Mrs. Thrasher and Ma have just gone off somewhere to see a sick lady and left word that I should tell you to come by all means. Every body that can is returning as fast as transportation and the roads will permit. You asked who of your friends on Peach Tree Street were here. Mrs. Perino Brown is here, Mrs. Dr. [James A.] Taylor, Mrs. [Edw. R.] Sasseen, Mrs. [Wm.] Ezzard, [L. S.] Salmons, [J. N.] Simmons, Winships, etc., etc.

I know very few of all who have returned. You knew Cousin John [Thrasher] and family were here. Mr. and Mrs. Amoss are moving up. Col. [Robert] Baugh and family and Mrs. Thrasher told me to tell you of a friend of yours who would be up next week but I have forgotten the name. Cousin Dick's house is still standing ready for you—so come in and occupy. I will be happy enough to have hysterics when we all get together again. Dr. and Mrs. Sells went North carrying all of Mrs. Thrasher's furniture and leaving the commonest of their own. A few pieces of Mrs. S's he couldn't get off and that he gave away to some of his friends. I hope however he hasn't disgraced our neighborhood [West End]. We have recovered nothing of ours but heard from the piano. I have however, in the face of circumstances, opened out a parlor. And you would be surprised at its magnificence. It contains an old bruised and battered bedstead, a wardrobe I found in the kitchen, a half of a bureau and a half of an extension dining table. Yes and moreover three green chairs.

We went away from here you know in a panic, leaving almost all of the photographs and ambrotypes. We have since heard that an old Irish woman got hold of Pa's and went round 'making a spec' by exhibiting it. I guess she showed it as 'the ginewine elephant.' It is well I didn't leave mine; she might have set up a menagerie with both of them.

Don't talk about wash pots; you may never expect to see them again. We left two very large ones, also a furnace, but they followed yours. There is not a sign of them. Your flowers are still alive and I think the grass lots have a notion to come up. If it were possible to procure material we would have your lots enclosed for you to save them from wagons, horses and cattle. But the plank is not to be had. If you could have even your garden fenced in, it would be worth a fortune to you. We have no garden at all, but I am afraid Ma will plant the front yard in cabbage, onions and peas. If she does I will have you a sow of everything. I know it almost kills you to be deprived of gardening, you are so fond of it.

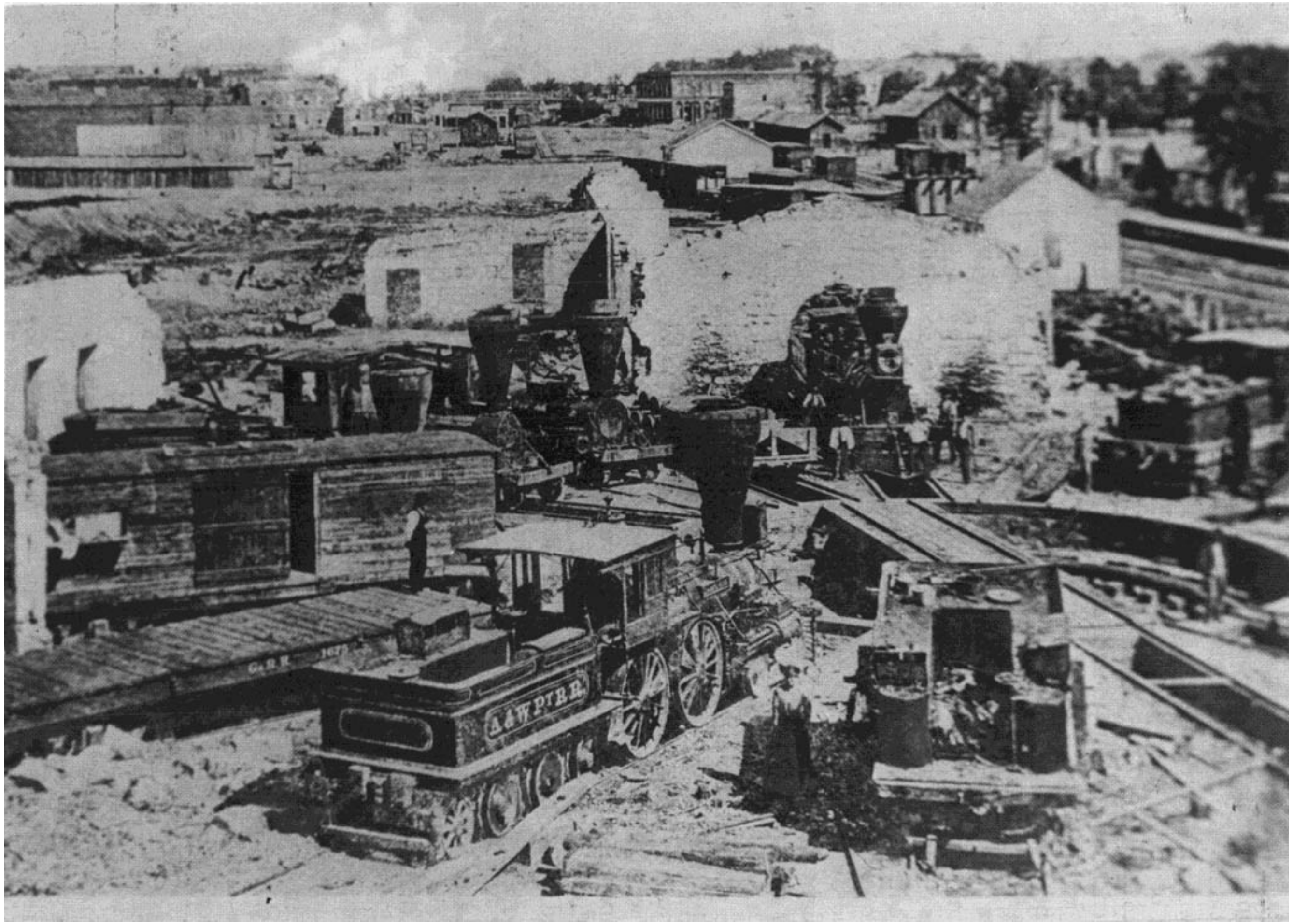
And so Hannah and Nancy [Negroes] left you. I am more than surprised. Nancy is here. I have seen her passing the house several times wagging under a bag of meal in the rain, and cold, almost naked. I sent out and asked her once if she did not belong to Mrs. Adair. She said no. Then I thought perhaps I might be mistaken. Mrs. Thrasher says she will have her taken up, and if she does not, and you wish it, we will do it for you. I expect Hannah has 'gone up the spout' long ago.

Have you put dresses on John Wesley? You say you have converted him into a waiting maid. I reckon you have to use pantalettes for her, don't you?

If you are living upon potatoes and buttermilk you are doing finely. However we manage to do very well here. Country wagons keep us supplied even cheaper than Augusta. Bacon is five dollars a pound, butter six, flour a dollar and a half, syrup twenty a gallon, eggs six a dozen, potatoes twenty a bushel and meal the same. There seems to be a plenty of everything. New stores are opening every week. I saw three ladies and a gentleman whom I took to be Mr. Willis Chisolm at your sister's house about a week ago. I would have called to see if they had returned, but when I saw the house again it was closed. I am glad you have told me Fannie's P.O. Now I shall certainly write to her. I think a great deal of the old lady. Maggie P.[8] is near Columbus and is setting her traps to return soon. No Ma'am, I don't think we have yet seen the last of her. Jesse Thrasher [son of Cousin John] is at home with the same old wound. He does not look well. Barton [Thrasher] also is here sick. He has been having chills every day. I believe he said since October. He looks wretchedly. David is in a Battery in Florida, fishing.

Katie sends much love to Poppie and a kiss to Robin. Kiss all the children for me. I hope soon to hear of young Forrest taking command of the army. But don't let him go into the saddle with the whooping cough. I am glad to hear you are getting so fat and in such good health.

You won't find much butter milk in Atlanta, so you had better bring a jug with you. I am so anxious to see you and hear you tell about the Yankees. I suppose you knew Mrs. Simpson was dead, and Miss Hill and Mr. Kramer were married. Do hurry and come up, we are all so anxious to see you. You must be sure to come. I met Warren Jordan at Mrs. Thrasher's the other evening. Wasn't he Maggie's old flame? Tell Pop not to forget me. Your cousin Capt. Grier is here on his crutches. I see him almost every day but he does not know me. I hear that Mrs. Chisolm went North with her son, and



(Photo by G. N. Barnard, 1865)

Ruins of the Atlanta & West Point and Georgia R. R. Roundhouse, early 1865, destroyed by Union Army, Nov., 1864, A. & W. P. Locomotive "Telegraph", foreground. The "O. A. Bull" of the same road on turntable. Fire Engine House No. 2 left center, fronting Washington Street, Engine House No. 1, with curved roof, center background. It stood at southwest corner of Broad Street Bridge, which is visible to right. The roundhouse was located on the south side of the Ga. R.R. tracks between the present Washington St. Viaduct and Piedmont Ave.

that Mr. Willis C., is coming back to Atlanta. And so are you. I must close. My love to all the children. Write and let us hear if you are coming soon. Goodbye—

Yours affectionately,
O. S. HAMMOND."[9]

The county governments of both Fulton and De Kalb began to function again in late '64 and early '65, under substantially the same officers who had been elected in early 1864. On January 23, 1865, both counties reconstituted their Inferior Courts. Justices for Fulton, commissioned on that date were Clement C. Green, Columbus M. Payne, Perino Brown and Daniel P. Ferguson. For De Kalb, E. J. Bailey, Zachariah R. Jones, R. J. Cooper, J. M. Smith and Michael Winningham.[10]

By April grand juries were again looking into County affairs and making presentments. Following are the first Fulton presentments since the Spring of 1864—those of April, 1865:

"Through our various committees we have made the examinations of the Books and Records of the several officers, to-wit: Superior Court, Court of Ordinary, Inferior Court, County Treasury and Sheriff's Docket. From the public buildings, on the approach of the enemy in July last, the clerks of the respective courts promptly removed all the books and records from the County, and by commendable care and diligence, have preserved and returned to their proper places every paper, book and record pertaining to their several offices.

"The books in each office are kept in a neat and legible manner, and indicate faithfulness in discharge of duty by the present incumbents. But little business has been transacted in any of the Courts since July last owing to the occupation of the County by the enemy during a portion of that time. No taxes were collected in this County during the past year. Consequently there are no school funds in hand. This is a matter of regret as there are many children in this County dependent for the rudiments of an education on this fund.

"In regard to the public buildings of the County we find that the jail[11] was burnt by the enemy, the walls only, remaining. These, together with some irons on the premises, are of considerable value, and we would recommend that the Inferior Court have the same at once taken care of for future use. The Poor House[12] has also been completely destroyed, chimneys only, standing. We recommend that the Inferior Court, with the consent of the City authorities have the room usually occupied by the officers of the Superior Court during the sessions of that body, put in proper condition to be used, at the expense of the County.

"In taking leave of his honor Judge B. H. Bigham, we return him our thanks for his courtesy to this body and yield our cheerful testimony as to the ability and impartiality of his honor as a presiding judicial officer. But the bearing and instructions of his honor, both in his charge and otherwise, have inspired us with sentiments above a mere compliment to which we must give expression on this occasion. In times such as the present, the like of which has never been before witnessed in the history of our land, when the very foundations of society are upheaving; when public morals and virtue are in such a sad state of decline; when life and property are in many places unsafe; when the civil laws are in so many instances disregarded; where there is so much corruption in high officials; when society tends so much to a state of anarchy, and when the only hope to the country for a better state of things is the faithfulness of the wise and good men of the land, under the guidance and protection of an all wise providence. We declare that in such a state of things, it is with the sincerest and most hopeful pleasure we recognize in his Honor such a faithful advocate of the public, and witness in the discharge of his duties such an earnest determination on the part of his Honor to see that the laws of the land are not a dead letter, but that the majesty of the laws shall be vindicated, and the rights of the citizens and the good order of Society be secured even in this perilous time. We also mark with satisfaction the diligence and faithfulness of the Sol. Gen. Con'l. N. J. Hammond, and record his promptness in the discharge of his duties as well as his attention to this body."

James N. Simmons, Foreman

Chapman Powell
John G. Pounds
Riley M. Willingham
James G. McLin
Johnson W. Bridwell
Henry Chase
Edward W. Munday
William Y. Langford
Nathaniel E. Gardner
Harrison Pettis
John Eddleman
Willis Peck
George F. Glazner
John Silvey
Thomas McDermot
James M. Bryant
Stephen B. Oatman
Joseph T. Porter
Thomas R. Ripley
Joseph Willis
Henry Bankston
William F. Harris[13]

Over in De Kalb County, a grand jury was also at work in April, 1865, and returned the first presentments of record since October, 1862. They follow:

"On account of the presence of the enemy in this County the officers of the County found it necessary to send off the Books and Public Records in order to secure them, and they have not yet been returned except the County Treasure (*sic*) Books.[14] We are informed that the other Books and Records of the County are all safe and we commend the conduct of the officers in their efforts to secure them. The Books and Records not being present we cannot make further report in regard to them that are not present. We suggest that they be brought back at the earliest practicable manner consistent with their safety and security.

"We have through a committee examined the County Jail and Court House and consider the Jail safe with the exception of the locks to the outer doors. We respectfully call the attention of the proper authorities to them and recommend the necessary repairs be made as soon as practicable. We examined the County Treasury, and find that Levi Willard, former Treasurer paid over to the Clerk of the Superior Court $230, balance on hand on the 15th of Sept. 1864. The present County Treasurer informed the committee that he has not received any funds in his hands, therefore has made no entry.

"We recommend that the officers of this County use their best efforts in the suppressing of crime and all immoral conduct. We tender our thanks as a body to the Judge for his courtesy returned to us. Also to the Solicitor General for his kindness to us."

HENRY P. WOOTEN, Foreman

Robert Cagle
Simeon Smith
Lodowick Tuggle
Elijah Steward
Stephen Martin
John McElroy
John T. Alford
Mark H. Minor
James Smith
Elijah Stevenson
Esom J. Bond
Edmond A. Turner
Benjamin F. Veal
Abraham Martin
William R. Ayers
Edmond J. Bailey
James M. Smith[15]

Thus were the County officials of Fulton and De Kalb, with the help of the solid citizenry of each, endeavoring to piece together the broken threads of their lives and affairs.

Throughout the early months of 1865 a steady stream of exiled Atlantans returned to their devastated community; and the stream was fed by many strangers, some of whom, in after years were destined to attain success and standing in the city they helped to rebuild.

Few of the returnees lost time in vain regret over their property losses. The ruin by which they were confronted spurred them to action. Indeed survival required action. Gentlemen of the old regime, unaccustomed, for many years at least, to manual labor, set to work knocking the dead mortar off bricks in the debris of their property preparatory to rebuilding. Men of the caliber of Judge John Collier mixed mortar and laid brick. Collier's home on Nelson Street had escaped destruction, although during the bombardment a shell crashed through the roof and landed on a feather bed recently vacated by a member of the family. Happily the shell did not explode. He was not so fortunate with his Whitehall Street business property, which on the night of November 14-15, 1864, was reduced to a pile of charred brick. However, with his sons carrying up the brick and mortar he rebuilt No. 57 Whitehall, which for many years housed his law office.[16]

The women too, showed pluck and energy. Deprived of their servants, in the majority of instances, ladies unaccustomed to such tasks performed their duty in kitchen and garden.[17]

As might be expected, the vast majority of structures erected in 1865 were cheaply and temporarily constructed. Hundreds of wooden shanties soon lined the business streets. But in the exigency of the moment anything with a roof and four sides answered for a shelter and a place in which to do business. Many of the former merchants returned with their stocks of goods, which had been shipped to places of safety. Others bought new stocks. Indeed neither poor shelter nor depreciated Confederate currency dulled the keen commercial instincts of Atlanta's business men.[18]

Other evidences of progress were not long in coming. On February 27th Rev. Henry C. Hornady, pastor of the First Baptist Church opened a school for boys and girls in the basement of the Second Baptist Church.[19] That this venture was highly regarded by Jared I. Whitaker, proprietor, and John H. Steele, editor, of the *Intelligencer* is indicated by the following editorial.

"A GOOD SCHOOL

We are gratified to see a notice in today's paper, which informs the parents and guardians of the boys and girls in our city, that a good school is now opened in our city, in the basement room of the Second Baptist Church, by the Rev. Mr. Hornady, for their instruction. We say a 'good school,' by which we mean, not a fashionable institution on the modern style, but just such a school as our city and the youth of both sexes, now absolutely require—a school where they can be taught all that the necessities of the times demand for the rising generation, and presided over by an able, faithful, christian gentleman and scholar, who possesses the respect and confidence of our community. We beseech parents and guardians not to permit the opportunity now afforded them by Mr. Hornady to pass by unimproved, but to embrace it for the youth under their charge, now running wild, as it were, without that instruction, which, it seems, the cruel war in which we are engaged, threatens to deprive them of. Good people, send your children to school, that they may be prepared to play their part in the time which will soon come."[20]

So spoke the local press in behalf of what was probably the first school to open in Atlanta after Sherman's departure.

Newspapers, incidentally, came high at this time. Subscription rates for the *Daily Intelligencer* were $10 for one month, $20 for two months, and three months, the longest period for which subscriptions were accepted, $25—Confederate, of course.[21]

By the first Sunday in April, 1865, regular services were being held in several of Atlanta's leading churches, including the first Baptist, Rev. H. C. Hornady; Central Presbyterian, Rev. John S. Wilson; Wesley Chapel, Rev. W. W. Wightman, and Trinity, Rev. R. A. Holland.[22]

Then came the rude awakening. Few believed the sad tidings of Lee's surrender at Appomattox on April 9th, and when the news was confirmed, many pluckily declared they were glad Atlanta was not in Lee's department and had not yet been surrendered. A couple of weeks later, on April 26th, when Johnston surrendered to the general all Atlantans knew, Sherman, near Durham's Station, North Carolina, no one doubted what was coming. Atlanta was in Johnston's department. It was but a few days until the well-remembered blue coats of the United States Army were again seen on the streets of Atlanta, and the stars and stripes replaced for the second time and permanently, the stars and bars on the public buildings.[23] What no Atlantan could then foresee were the rigors of reconstruction, radical style.

Under the provisions of the convention agreed upon between Generals Sherman and Johnston, Colonel B. B. Eggleston of the First Ohio Cavalry was designated, on May 3rd, to receive the surrender of the Confederate troops in Atlanta. The following day Colonel Eggleston arrived in the city, whereupon Lt. Colonel L. J. Glenn, Confederate post commandant relinquished command in favor of the former. On the 5th Captain William G. Lawder was assigned by Colonel Eggleston as provost-marshal of Atlanta.[24]

The first order issued by Colonel Eggleston, after taking command in Atlanta indicated to the people of the city that he meant to keep order. Dated May 5th, it read:

"All persons in and about Atlanta, Ga., in possession of intoxicating liquors of any kind, are hereby prohibited from selling or giving the same to any soldier, whatever, under penalty of forfeiture of all liquors found in their possession."[25]

The status of the Negro, being for the moment, most uncertain, Colonel Eggleston issued an order on May 13th to the effect that all Negroes found without passes within the limits of the city, would be arrested and placed in confinement, and that owners or employers were required to furnish them with proper passes.[26]

Beginning in early May, with demobilization of the Confederate Army getting under way, many a footsore and weary veteran of both Lee's and Johnston's armies arrived in the city and environs. For many it was home; for others it was merely a stopover en route to a distant home. Most, of course, were in need, but none had any complaint to make of their treatment in Atlanta. All that they needed from the post commissary or quartermaster's departments was freely given, and in greater measure than asked. Indeed, on May 11th, the *Intelligencer* said that both Colonel Eggleston and Captain Lawder were performing their duties in a highly satisfactory manner, and in closing commented:

". . . Deportment like this was too commendable to pass unnoticed, and it was hoped that the citizens would know how to appreciate it and that they would demean themselves accordingly."[27]

By the time of the surrender, Thomas Maguire of Rockbridge near Lithonia was pretty well discouraged. He had already suffered heavily at the hands of Union foraging parties during the occupation of Atlanta by Sherman. Some of his "Journal" entries during May and June, 1865, reflect his feelings, and doubtless the feelings of many in his position.

"May 3—Everything is now confusion as regards government.

"May 5—Lithonia . . . conferred three [Masonic] degrees . . . the times are out of joint . . . I fear we will have bad times, but we must take them as they come.

"May 8—Some 30 Yanks passed at 11 o'clock on their way to Covington. They left an advertisement offering a reward of $100,000 in gold for the apprehension of Jefferson Davis. I hope they will not find him.

"May 10—Some Yanks passed this morning. They wanted corn but got none. The dark hour is coming.

"May 13—I have no mind to do anything. A few Yanks passed today. Wish they were all in Heaven.[28]

"May 14—Sunday . . . the family all well and we still have a little to eat. It is said there are more Yankees coming this way. It may be so. I did not get to meeting [at church]. I now think I will put away some more corn. If the Yanks should come they will take all I have. If I hide it they may not find it, but if they do I will be no worse off than if I leave it in the crib. . . . What a country we have at the present time! We have nothing that we can call our own. The vile Yankees take everything they please and go where they please. We are a powerless people, but by no means a conquered people. I have lost hope of yet gaining our independence. . . .

"May 18—John E. and James H. C., came home from Atlanta. Got their paroles. . . . John E. brought today's paper. From it we are back in the Union, but how I do not know and do not much care. I look for nothing but hard times for the balance of my life. What will become of my family it is hard to say. I had hoped for better things, but hoped in vain, so I will try and put up with my lot as best I can. I have no heart to do anything. All is dark and gloomy. I could weep, but that would do no good, so I will stop writing on this painful subject.

"May 28—Sunday. Would like to know the state of our country, more particularly our situation as a people, whether we have a government or not. What is to become of us as a people. I fear we will have bad times, but some think otherwise, and some think we will be treated kindly by the Yankee government, but I am not of this opinion. I have no faith in the Yankees, nor in their love for us. They have treated me so badly I can never forget their meanness and dishonesty—as a people I look upon them as rogues and swindlers.

"June 4—Three or four of Mr. Lee's negroes went off this morning to the Yankees.

"June 5—Andrew gone to the Yankees with the Lee negroes.

"June 6—Nearly all the talk now is of the Negroes going to the Yankees. They will see a hard time before long. Some of mine may go. It will be a disadvantage to me and a great misfortune to them. . . .

"June 18—Report said our negroes would leave last night, but I did not believe it—Dick is at his post this morning. I think the excitement of the negroes going to the Yankees is nearly over. The poor negroes will be sorry enough after they realize the effects of this, to them, great revolution. The race, I think will be exterminated in a few years. The negroes will be like the Indians, but in a far worse condition. They are now of little profit to their owners and they cannot make out by themselves. Work they will not, still they must live. The white will kill them in self-defense. . . ."

While Mr. Maguire's predictions as to the fate of the Negro were colored by the exigencies of the moment, his question as to "whether we have a government or not?" was certainly a fair one. Many another citizen, both rural and urban, was probably speculating in like vein.

It has been noted that Atlanta had again become a United States military post. On June 27th the Military Department of Georgia was established as part of the Military Division of Tennessee, Major General George H. Thomas, commanding. The Department of Georgia was subdivided into four districts. The northwestern, under General Stevenson, comprised the vicinity of Atlanta and Marietta, including all counties on both sides of the W. & A. R. R., with headquarters in Atlanta.[29]

Governor Brown had issued a call for the General Assembly to meet in Milledgeville on May 22, 1865, but the meeting was checkmated by the Federal authorities, who not only forbade it, but arrested Brown, Alexander H. Stephens, Howell Cobb, Benjamin H. Hill and other prominent Confederate leaders. After an interview with President Johnson, the Governor was released on parole, and returning to Georgia on June 29th, resigned, so as to remove any impediment that he might personally interpose to the problem of reconstruction.[30]

Meanwhile, on June 17th, President Johnson had appointed James Johnson as Provisional Governor of Georgia, Johnson was a University of Georgia graduate, a respected lawyer of Columbus, and a member of Congress from 1851 to 1853. He had opposed secession and taken no active part in the government of the Confederacy.[31]

From Milledgeville, on July 13th, Governor Johnson issued a proclamation announcing his appointment, and, following instructions from the President called for an election on the first Wednesday in October to send delegates to a constitutional convention to convene on the fourth Wednesday in October. The oath of amnesty had to be taken to qualify citizens to vote. All redress for wrong was remitted to the military authority, and slavery was declared extinct. County ordinaries were authorized to administer the oath.[32]

The first public meeting to be held in Atlanta after the surrender took place on Saturday, June 24, 1865, the call for it having been signed by Mayor Calhoun, John M. Clarke, William R. Venable, James L. Dunning, Jethro W. Manning and John Silvey. The meeting was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the momentous questions of the day, and to afford all good and true men an opportunity to express their sentiments. It was organized by the appointment of the Mayor as chairman and B. D. Smith, secretary.[33]

Mayor Calhoun opened the meeting with a speech in which he said that the object of the meeting was to give an opportunity to the people to express their wishes with reference to returning to the Union; to the organization of civil government in Georgia, and for the restoration of law and order. For himself, he said he was never in favor of the destruction of the old Union, the Union of our fathers, and that it was the desire of his heart to return to it. He said it was the right of the Southern people to claim the protection of the National Government as they had in former times fought for it and would fight for it again.[34]

A committee composed of John M. Clarke, Jared I. Whitaker, Alfred Austell, James L. Dunning and George W. Adair submitted resolutions adopted as the sense of the meeting, which congratulated the people on the end of the war, approved the appointment of the provisional governor, expressed a desire for restoration of state government, and the renewal of old friendship and trade relations. They counseled obedience to the laws and patient industry, condemned the assassination of President Lincoln, declared confidence in President Johnson, and commended the Provisional Governor, James Johnson.[35]

Both the tenor of the Mayor's speech and the resolutions, were quite remarkable for the time, but the indication was that an orderly and peaceful reconstruction or reentry into the Union might have been possible except for the radicals in Congress who moved Heaven and earth to prevent such a course.

Indeed, during the early part of President Johnson's administration conditions gave promise of a peaceful reconstruction. The Federal appointments for the State of Georgia gave considerable satisfaction to the people of Atlanta. John Erskine, judge of the United States District Court, was a native of County Tyrone, Ireland; married an Alabama girl, and had come to Atlanta a few years before from Newnan, Georgia. He remained on the bench until 1883 when he retired, but continued to live in Atlanta until his death in 1895. James L. Dunning, United States Marshal, had been a citizen of Atlanta since long before the war, and though his opinions were unpopular with the citizens, he always retained their respect. Amherst W. Stone, District Attorney, was an ante-bellum Atlanta lawyer and a native of Vermont. He later moved west and was appointed judge of the Federal Court in Colorado.[36]

During this period, insofar as the northwestern Military District, including Atlanta, was concerned, county courts were encouraged to resume ordinary business and city and county governments to continue their normal functions.[37]

On July 14th the Atlanta city council adopted an ordinance that less than a year before would have been unthinkable.

"Whereas, the military authorities do not recognize any difference in penal laws between blacks and whites,

Therefore, be it ordained by the mayor and council of the city of Atlanta, that all ordinances and parts of ordinances, making negroes guilty of crimes different from white persons, be, and the same are hereby repealed, and that hereafter negroes be subject to the same ordinances as white persons, and the violations of them be punished as violations by white persons, provided that on failure to pay any fine and costs, they may be sentenced to work on the streets or other public works of the city for such time as will pay the same at such rates as are then paid to persons for like work for the city."[38]

A second meeting of Atlanta citizens, held on September 30, 1865, to nominate candidates to represent Fulton County in a state convention, was presided over by Dr. John G. Westmoreland.

After nominating Nathaniel J. Hammond, Jared I. Whitaker and George W. Adair, the meeting adopted resolutions approving the policy of President Andrew Johnson, pledging him support, approving his proclamation of amnesty, promising that the delegates chosen by this meeting would support the president's plan for restoration of the southern states to the Union, opposing Negro suffrage, expressing sympathy for the Negroes, repudiating all effort to stir up strife between those who differed on the war, and recommending forgetfulness of the past.

A copy of these resolutions was sent to President Johnson. Messrs. Hammond, J. L. Dunning and Adair were chosen delegates to the state convention, which met on October 25th at Milledgeville. At the state election of November 15th Fulton County gave majorities to Charles J. Jenkins, for Governor, W. T. Wofford and J. P. Hambleton for Congressmen, James F. Johnson, of Jonesboro, for State Senator for the Thirty-fifth Congressional District, and T. W. J. Hill and Robert F. Maddox for Representatives from Fulton County.[39] At the same election Oliver Winningham, of Stone Mountain, was chosen as Representative for De Kalb County.[40]

Charles J. Jenkins, for thirty years a well-known figure in the State, serving from the Lower House of the General Assembly up to the Supreme Court of Georgia, was unanimously elected governor and was inaugurated on December 14th, a cold, raw, rainy day. It seemed as if nature was giving token that the seemingly happy episode was a temporary and ineffectual part of the tragic comedy of reconstruction.[41]

On July 7, 1865, there was detailed as Commander of the Post of Atlanta, an officer, who together with his wife constituted one of the most unique couples ever to be associated with the city. Prince Felix Salm-Salm, originally of the principality of Westphalia, Prussia, was a member of one of the oldest dynastic families of Germany. As an officer in the Prussian cavalry he distinguished himself in the Holstein War. At the beginning of the War Between the States he came to America and joined the forces of General Blenker, being commissioned a colonel in the Eighth New York Regiment. In 1862 the Prince married Miss Agnes Leclerq, of Baltimore, a cultured and high-spirited young woman, with whom he lived most happily for the eight years remaining to him.[42]

In February, 1865, Prince Salm was colonel of the 68th New York Regiment, then stationed at Bridgeport, Tennessee. A short time later, largely through his wife's efforts, and after he had been transferred to Dalton, Georgia, the Prince was promoted to Brigadier General. Then, on July 7th he was detailed to Atlanta with the duty of maintaining order in the district. In her diary for July 10th, the princess recorded:

> "We found a very nice little cottage in which Salm established his headquarters after General Winslow[43] had surrendered to him the command of the place. We remained in Atlanta until October, and time passed very agreeably with us."[44]

The "little cottage" spoken of was the Er Lawshe residence on the west side of Peachtree Street between Cain and Harris.[45]

In a letter to his wife in Madison, Georgia, James R. Crew, then railroad ticket agent in Atlanta, said: "Mrs. [William] Solomon has her hands full now making cakes for Mrs. General Salm, who is giving a large party on the 30th."[46]

Mrs. Salm seems to have created more of an impact upon the people of Atlanta than did her husband. Although she defied southern female custom by riding astride, rather than side saddle, she had a southern viewpoint and was sympathetic with the problems of local citizens. Consequently she made many friends during the brief time the General was stationed in Atlanta. Five years later Prince Felix Salm-Salm, the only titled individual ever in authority in Atlanta, gave his life for his native land on the field at Gravelotte in the Franco-Prussian War.[47]

Of the hundreds of Confederate soldiers who returned to the Atlanta area after the war, the experiences of John Barnett Steward (1833-1893), a native and life-long resident of De Kalb County, are fairly typical. He tells the story himself:

> "In September, 1861, I went into the service of the Confederate Government and served up to the surrender in 1865, being with the Western Army all the time, and under Johnston in North Carolina, and in command of Company I, in the 42nd Georgia Regiment.
>
> "When I arrived home my wife and two lovely little daughters met me to say that they had nothing to welcome me to but their loving embrace, which was all that I cound ask in those dark and gloomy days. Our first three days' meals were made of what I had brought home, to-wit: hard tack, bacon and coffee. I had one dollar in silver which had been given to me by the General commanding the Confederate Army, that noble and grand hero, Joseph E. Johnston, who had no superior.
>
> "With all the dark and murky clouds hanging over and around me, I shouldered my ax and walked two miles at early dawn and returned late at night, and worked hard getting out boards to cover what was known as the Hoge and Mills Foundry in Atlanta, at 75¢ per day, until I had earned $18. Then with my old tattered 'Joe Brown Suit', I marched to the U. S. Commissary and expended the full sum for bacon, flour and coffee.
>
> "Then, without means, but with an iron will, I began the building of a steam saw mill, and with close management and hard work and hard living, in three months I was sawing lumber at the rate of five to six thousand feet per day and selling it at the rate of $3.50 to $5.50 per hundred. With this,

I was still sleeping on a blanket in the corner of the fence, doing my own cooking, and visiting my family twice a week, Wednesday and Saturday nights."[48]

Before the war Mr. Steward had been a rising young member of the De Kalb County bar. After his postwar hardships he resumed his profession and served honorably as solicitor-general and ordinary of De Kalb, in addition to a term in the lower house of the State Legislature from his home county.[49]

Working on the railroad out of Atlanta in 1865 was work indeed. The late Joshua O'Neal, father of four locomotive engineers, and himself for many years an engineer on the old Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line (now Southern), relates some of the early post-war difficulties of train crews:[50]

"I started firing on the Georgia road in 1865, and for the next four years I stoked wood into the fire box while the dinky little trains crawled along the soft iron rails at an average rate of less than 12 miles an hour. Some places we ran faster than that, but the rough stretches brought our schedules down.

"The road between Atlanta and Oconee (later called Carey) was a regular trainman's nightmare. Sherman on his march to the sea had ordered the destruction of the fifty-mile stretch, and his men had executed his orders perfectly. They burned the ties to heat the rails, and then bent the soft iron strips around trees and posts. There was not a single rail left in place at the close of the war.

"The road was in poor financial condition at that time, and could get no new rails, so the old ones were straightened out as best we could, and relaid. Even expert iron workers find it difficult to straighten bent pieces, and the men who were on the track job were not experts. In addition, they had so much work to do they couldn't give each rail a great deal of attention.

"The result was a scrub-board effect that would have taxed the rough-riding qualities of [Theodore] Roosevelt. We were forced to crawl over the tracks at a snail's pace, and even then derailments were frequent.

"It is over 170 miles to Augusta, and only about 50 miles were torn up, which gave us more than a hundred miles on which to work our schedules down to the regulation fifteen hours. Even then, we sometimes arrived several hours late.

"Nearly all stations had eating places, and when the lunch hour overtook us, we stopped for rations. Wrecks, especially derailments, were to be expected, but the trains ran so slowly that little harm was done. When a car left the track the trainmen worked it back on with their 'block and lizard', and the train continued on its way.

"Our wood between Oconee and Augusta was fat pine that threw out great showers of sparks and whole clouds of smoke, but it made good steam. This side of Oconee it was oak, which gave much less power, sparks or smoke.[51]

"Those old funnel-shaped stacks took care of part of the sparks. They were made in two sections, the real stack extending up the middle, surrounded by the bulbous looking cover, which was intended to hold sparks. A screen stretched over the top caught the live sparks as they came from the fire box, and let them fall back to the bottom of the outside flue.

"When the flue filled up we had to stop the train to 'spark the stack', which was accomplished by taking off the screen and digging out the sparks and ashes. When a hole wore or rusted in the screen cover, it seemed that every coal in the fire box tried to fly out through it. Sparks frequently set the woods on fire. There were not enough box cars on the road at that time to move the cotton crop every fall, so we had to load the cotton on flat cars, with guards stationed with buckets of water to put out the fires when sparks fell on the cotton.

"We pulled twelve to fourteen cars, which were connected by chain couplings, and when the train started passengers had to look out or their necks might be broken. The brakes were of wood and sometimes got broken and tangled up with the wheels, which usually resulted in a car or two being thrown off the rails. Freights had brakes on the engine and caboose, while the box cars ran free. A hand brake was on each passenger car. When the engineer wanted brakes he whistled for them, and prayed that the men in the caboose would hear.

"The grades were not very steep, however, and the brakes were able to hold the trains down to their regular speed. We had to stop frequently for wood, which slowed down our runs considerably, for those old steamers burned an awful lot of chunks."

S. P. Richards, after a sojourn in New York City of nearly a year, returned to Atlanta in early August, 1865. From Nashville to Atlanta he traveled by what is now the N. C. & St. L. Railway, then operated along with the W. & A., as the U. S. Military Railroad. He describes his trip and arrival in Atlanta through the pages of his ever-present diary.

"August 8th—We had a hot dry ride to Chat^{a}, the U. S. M. R. Rd., Officials being interested in the lemonade trade, did not give us any water in the cars. . . . We arrived at Chat^{a} at night and found that we could not leave until morning, so we had to submit to be swindled by Mrs. Bishop of the Crutchfield House, who charged us six dollars for two straw beds and breakfast for Sallie and myself. . . ."

"August 9th—We were up bright and early and after more extras in getting off our baggage we got off on the last stage of our journey. Our ride today was a slow one through a desolated land. Every village and station we stopped at presented an array of ruined walls and chimneys standing useless and solitary, with no signs of returning life about them. Marietta, ever so pretty and prosperous, is now a desolate ruin, thanks to that destroying vandal, W. T. Sherman. At seven o'clock we reached Atlanta, glad to find ourselves safe in life and limb at the end of our long and dangerous journey."

"August 10th—We are once more in Atlanta! Altho' we cannot say with the MacGregor 'My foot is on my native heath'—we can say our feet are in our accustomed dust. We arrived safely last evening and found Jabe [J. J. Richards] awaiting us at the—*depot,* I was going to say—but alas! that is no more. The ruthless hand of Sherman's vandal host has left nothing of that but the debris of its materials. Our quarters are now in the upper room from the window of which just one year ago, I used to watch the shells as they came hurtling and whizzing towards us. This afternoon Jabe and I walked to town, and a dirty, dusty ruin it is, but still, busy life is resuming its sway over its desolate streets and any number of stores of all kinds are springing up as if by magic in every part of the burnt district, and enormous rents are asked and obtained for very indifferent store-houses. I guess we shall have to start in the 'Peters St.'[52] house, which is rather too much retired tho' for a store."

During the late summer and fall of 1865 there were many evidences of progress in Atlanta. The Atlanta Medical College, after a hiatus and near destruction, held a faculty meeting on August 16th at the office of Professor Powell. Present were Professors J. P. Logan, Alexander Means, J. G., and W. F. Westmoreland, and Powell. The minutes of the meeting record:

> "It is a matter for profound gratitude to Almighty God that during the four years of bloody and desolating war, during which so many sad changes have occurred in every community and almost every family, every member of the faculty still lives, none having fallen by the casualties of war or otherwise."

After the meeting was called to order, Professor Logan presented the resignation of Professor H. W. Brown, which was accepted with regret. On September 17th the newly organized faculty was announced: Dr. Eben Hillyer, Professor of Physiology, Dr. D. C. O'Keefe, Professor of Anatomy, Dr. S. H. Stout, Professor of Pathological Anatomy, Dr. G. G. Crawford, Demonstrator of Anatomy, Dr. W. F. Westmoreland, Professor of Surgery, Dr. John P. Logan, Professor of Medicine, Dr. John G. Westmoreland, Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Dr. Thomas S. Powell, Professor of Obstetrics, and Dr. Alexander Means, Professor of Chemistry.

In November a regular course of lectures was begun and the Atlanta Medical College was again fulfiling its useful purpose.[53]

The Atlanta Post Office resumed normal and official operation on July 21, 1865, at the northeast corner of Alabama and Broad streets, with Thomas G. Simms as Postmaster.[54] The *Intelligencer,* in commenting upon the event, said:

> "Our recently appointed postmaster, Thos. G. Simms, Esq., who for sometime past has been performing irregularly the duties of that position, has just received his commission from the President and will now assume entire control of the post office in this city."[55]

During the late spring or early summer of 1865 the second Market (Broad) Street bridge, a wooden truss structure, built by William McConnell and Patrick Lynch in 1853 and rebuilt in 1858, was accidentally burned. Since all of the other downtown streets crossed the railroad tracks at grade, it was determined to rebuild at once. At a cost of $8600, L.P. Grant designed and built a third bridge, also of wooden construction, and with suspension rods. A unique feature of this bridge as compared with its predecessors, was its width. Instead of a mere thirty feet it was widened to seventy. Bridge Street, now North Broad had already been opened to Luckie and Peachtree. When the new bridge was built, Market, now South Broad was opened through to Mitchell. All of which inspired City Council, on July 3, 1865, to pass an ordinance making Bridge and Market streets one continuous thoroughfare and naming it Broad Street.[56]

Journalism began to spread its war-clipped wings in 1865. The *Intelligencer,* under Jared I. Whitaker and John H. Steele, returned to Atlanta from its Macon exile before 1864 was out. In '65 it acquired a competitor in the *Daily New Era,* a democratic paper started by Colonel John S. Prather and H. T. Phillips. The latter, soon to enter the book and music business with Benjamin B. Crew, was shortly afterward bought out by William Lindsay Scruggs, an East Tennessean, who came to Atlanta early in 1866. Prather and Scruggs continued to publish the *New Era* until the fall of 1866, when it was sold to Dr. Samuel Bard, a journalist from the Southwest.

Bard was bold, ambitious, and, for a while was a flaming Democrat. However with the beginning of the bitter reconstruction period he reversed himself and became a strong Republican. Personally he was a genial man, a good speaker and a pleasant talker, and his tact enabled him to keep on friendly terms with the many citizens who were violently opposed to his politics. Associated with him on the *New Era* was Asa R. Watson, who devoted himself to literary and news matters. Dr. Bard converted the paper to a Republican sheet and continued in charge until January, 1870, when it was sold to a stock company backed by Governor Rufus B. Bullock, who bought the paper to silence Bard's criticism of him. William L. Scruggs thereupon became managing editor and chief editorial writer, with Wallace P. Reed as his assistant. The tone of the paper was so high, and the news presented so attractively, that it was patronized by both Democrats and Republicans. Even so, it suspended publication in 1872.[57]

Another Atlanta journalistic venture of 1865, but of an entirely different character was *Scott's Monthly Magazine,* with Rev. W. J. Scott, a former pastor of Wesley Chapel Methodist Church, and J. J Toon, proprietor of the *Christian Index,* as editors. By 1867 the Rev. Mr. Scott was advertising the magazine as "The oldest and Largest Literary Magazine in the South," and that future issues "will be elegantly embellished with Steel Plates, Lithographs, and Wood Cuts, prepared expressly for this publication, consisting of superb likenesses of Lee, Davis, Joe Johnston, Polk, Forrest, etc." In spite of this tempting bill of fare *Scott's Monthly Magazine* died in 1869.[58]

An institution possessing better lasting qualities than the publications just cited, was also established in 1865—the Atlanta National Bank. Certainly nothing was more sorely needed in war-torn Atlanta than a good strong bank, and this need General Alfred Austell and his associates proposed to fill. The Act of Congress to incorporate National Banking Associations was passed on June 3, 1864. Under its provisions, on September 2, 1865, the Atlanta National Bank was organized. The organization meeting was held in New York; and those present, in person or by proxy were: George S. Cameron, of Charleston, S. C., J. F. Cummings, Henry Coit and George D. Arthur, of New York; Alfred Austell, W. H. Tuller, W. P. Inman, S. B. Hoyt and John H. James, of Atlanta; and Paul Romare, of Chester, S. C.[59]

The bank received its charter, and opened for business on December 19, 1865, with a Capital Stock of $100,000, thereby earning the distinction of being the first National bank to operate in the Cotton States. Until the completion of a suitable banking house on the south side of Alabama Street just east of Whitehall, business was transacted in General Austell's home, originally built by Judge Reuben Cone, on the south side of Marietta Street next door to the First Presbyterian Church. At that time the entire working force consisted of three men, Alfred Austell, President; William H. Tuller, a native New Yorker, recently moved to Atlanta from La Grange, Georgia, Cashier, and Paul Romare, a native of Sweden, who first came to America in 1843 as a cabin boy on his father's merchant ship, Bookkeeper. Original Directors were Alfred Austell, Miles G. Dobbins, John H. James, W. R. Phillips and Jessee McLendon.[60]

After a few months in the Austell home, the bank moved into its Alabama Street quarters, where it remained until May 1, 1903, when it occupied the newly erected Century Building, later Atlanta National Bank Building, at the northeast corner of Whitehall and Alabama streets. In 1924 the Atlanta National and the Lowry National Banks merged as the Atlanta and Lowry National Bank. Four years later, in 1929, this institution and the Fourth National Bank merged to form the present First National Bank of Atlanta, which continues to operate under the charter of the old Atlanta National Bank. For a sixty year period, until its merger with the Lowry, the Atlanta National had five presidents, namely: Alfred Austell, 1865-1881; James Swann, son-in-law of the founder, 1881-1903; Paul Romare, 1903-1904; Charles E. Currier, 1904-1917; and Robert F. Maddox, 1917-1924. All of these gentlemen, with the exception of Mr. Maddox, died in office.[61]

By the summer of 1865 the *Intelligencer* was again deriving a brisk revenue from the advertising of enterprising Atlanta merchants. The following are typical of the goods and services offered:[62]

THOS. KILE L. G. PIRKLE J. L. QUEEN

T. KILE & CO.
Wholesale Grocers

Auction

And

Commission Merchants,

Having completed their very large and commodious building, on the corner of Marietta and Peachtree streets, Atlanta, Georgia, and having procured the services of Uncle Billy Hill, the Prince of Auctioneers, we intend, in connection with our Grocery Trade, to do a General Auction and Commission Business.

We flatter ourselves that we will be able to give perfect satisfaction, as we have procured the services of one of the best Book-Keepers in the State. Our motto is QUICK SALES AND PROMPT RETURNS.

T. KILE & CO.

FRESH ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS!

J. M. & J. C. Alexander,

Have just opened a new VARIETY STORE, on corner of Peachtree and Walton streets, near A. C. Wyly's old stand. Consisting of Notions, Dry Goods, Shoes, Boots, Hardware and Groceries.

They respectfully solicit everybody to give them a call, and especially the ladies.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

Citizens and Travelers,

I have refitted those large and splendid rooms under the Masonic Hall, and opened a first class DRINKING and

BILLIARD SALOON,

and intend it shall be second to none in this State.

I have on hand and always shall keep, OLD and PURE liquors; none other shall be sold in my Saloon.

The bar is under the exclusive management of those clever and affable gentlemen TOM COLLIER and BILLY CLARK, who have no superiors in their line, and they will be happy to see their old friends.

Capt. White, the clever man of Atlanta and Augusta notoriety, has full charge of the Billiard Tables, I respectfully ask a liberal share of patronage.

GEO. SHARP, JR., Proprietor.

N.B. In a few days I shall open a FIRST CLASS DINING ROOM and Restaurant on the European style, with accommodation for one hundred and fifty to a meal. Travelers will bear this in mind, as my TABLE will abound with all the delicacies of the season.

GEO. SHARP, JR.

The legal profession, always alert to new avenues of practice, found, in 1865, that the procuring of pardons for erstwhile Confederates could be lucrative, and did not hesitate to advertise its facilities. The following are typical:[63]

GEO. HILLYER

Attorney at Law

Office in Masonic Hall Building

Atlanta, Georgia

Will give special attention to the collection of claims against the Government and to applications for pardon. Expects to go to Washington City in the course of a month or six weeks, so as to press all cases entrusted to him to a speedy hearing.

Counsel, who cannot go to Washington in person, and persons interested will do well to call on or correspond with him.

Terms reasonable with guaranty of the utmost promptness and dispatch.

Solicits a share of patronage in all branches of the legal profession.

SPECIAL PARDONS

Procured by
A. W. Hammond & Son
Attorneys at Law
Alabama Street
Atlanta, Georgia

Our Junior[64] has been Attorney for all Loan and Building Associations in the City for ten years past, and the Firm has paid special attention to Conveyancing. They are therefore well posted as to the titles to, and encumbrances on, lands in this county.

While the immediate postwar period in Atlanta was a time of feverish rebuilding activity upon the part of its merchants, artisans and professional men, it was also a period of destitution and stark poverty for others, particularly in the suburbs, who had been left penniless and without means of support in the backwash of the war. The *Daily Intelligencer* of September 13, 1865, editorialized upon this unfortunate situation:

"There is a population in and on the suburbs of this city whose condition is such as to enlist the sympathies of all good people, and for whom something should be done. It is larger than a casual observer would imagine, and is entitled to more consideration than in times like these is usually accorded to the destitute. It consists of families who have been stripped of everything, and whose male members went into the war and have never returned. On the blackened ruins of their once happy homes, under sheds and tents that furnish but little protection from the storm, they simply exist, and such an existence. With barely food sufficient to keep soul and body together, and no assurance that even so small a pittance as that may long be reckoned upon, they live from day to day in an almost hopeless state of destitution. We have heard recounted from the lips of many, of these stories of their wants and sufferings, of hopes vanished, and of longings for rescue from their unhappy condition, that would melt the sternest of hearts to pity.

"Others there are who were driven from their homes in other states and places, and have never been able to return to them; of these, many were in affluent circumstances; had accumulated or were in the enjoyment of a competency now lost, and no manly arms left them to help regain it. Their pecuniary condition is lamentable enough, and from it they suffer all that frail human nature may endure, but it is that grief in the hereafter loved ones never more to return, that makes their sorrows more poignant, and which hour by hour as steadily as flows the sand in the glass, is wearing their hopeless lives away! Age and infirmity, and young joyous childhood alike are passing this severe ordeal. These people may be seen in any direction on the outskirts of town, and in the hurry and bustle of business it becomes us not to forget them. Strained, as our people are to the utmost, we are aware that not much can be expected of them, but surely something may be spared from their sparse means for these loud supplications to their benevolence.

"Another class, larger and increasing, somewhat entitled to our pity and commiseration, are huddled together in most abject wretchedness everywhere, and living in idleness, vice and profligacy. Having brought upon their own heads the unhappy condition in which they are found, our feelings are not so keenly aroused in their behalf. We allude to the recently liberated slaves who have deserted happy homes and kind masters. By far the larger part of them are able-bodied and can be made useful if the proper steps were taken to put them to labor. As now found in persistent idleness, life to them—and more especially a life of freedom—is a curse. Nothing short of the strong arm of the law can ameloriate their condition, and we hope soon to see that now dormant element of usefulness made to subserve some good end.

"An hour's stroll on the suburbs of Atlanta will reveal much that requires Christian intervention on the part of the benevolent, as well as the application of civil or military regulations. Of the two, the former appeals loudly to our hearts; of the latter it may be said that the good of society, and the abatement of crime, demand interference, and that speedily!"

Another class of suburban resident, not touched upon by the editor of the *Intelligencer,* was represented by the wood hauler. With little or no coal available, the demand for firewood was insatiable. The need was met by literally hundreds of self appointed suppliers, who lived for the most part in dugouts for which Colonel L. P. Grant's erstwhile city fortifications made a natural site. These people, without the formality of seeking permission from landowners, stripped forest and field hauling the results of their labor into the city in homemade wheelbarrows. Between the destruction wrought by the contending armies in '64 and by the wood haulers of '65, the ante-bellum forest of the Atlanta area was sadly decimated.[65]

As indicated by the *Intelligencer* editorial just quoted, the ex-slaves were now becoming a grave problem. The half-million Negroes in Georgia were not actually free until the war ended, for the Emancipation Proclamation was effective only in a limited region. Except in those sections penetrated by Federal armies during the war, slavery continued to hold sway. After the surrender it was different. To the majority of Negroes, the immediate response to freedom was to leave the home place for somewhere else, preferably a city or town. The city appealed to their gregarious instincts and love of a crowd. With no sense of foresight, but in simple trust that freedom of itself must be good, they let go the bird in hand without any prospect of finding even one in the bush. They also reasoned that since slavery meant work, freedom meant exactly the opposite, no work. At the same time the former slaves clung tenaciously to a belief, fostered by rumor, that come Christmas, the white folks' lands would be divided and every Negro would have his share, commonly estimated at forty acres and a mule.[66]

Thus in the summer and fall of 1865 the cities of the State, including Atlanta, become the mecca of the Negro. They usually huddled together on the outskirts of the cities in rude huts, or with no shelter at all. Now, with no white master to provide meals, the ex-slaves were faced with one of life's oldest necessities, but for them a new problem. One must work to eat. But work was the antithesis of freedom. While some trusted in the Lord to stave off starvation, others resorted to a life of vagabondage. In rural sections unprotected corn fields and hen roosts were fair game. In the city anything lying around loose was apt to disappear. Newspapers reported that most of the offenders brought before provost courts in towns were Negroes accused of stealing, quarreling, and disturbing the peace generally.[67]

With the presence of idle Negroes, destitute whites, and the usual quota of the lawless, found in all communities at all times, it is little wonder that private property in Atlanta was, to say the least, unsafe. Under date of September 5, 1865, the *Intelligencer* reported:

> "Horse thieves in this vicinity are pursuing their avocation with a zeal greater than ever was known. Not a day but what we hear of some new operation. On Saturday night the premises of S. B. Love, Esq., were visited and a fine mare stolen. She is a deep bay, six years old, with a knot on her left foreleg just under the knee. She was last seen passing over the pontoon bridge across the Chattahoochee. There is no question but this vicinity is infested by a regular band of horse thieves, and our people had better be on their guard. Such scoundrels should have no mercy shown them when caught in the act."

Anent the subject of thievery, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary:

> "October 31—Yesterday we were on the watch for brick thieves, as Father discovered on Sunday that two of the chimneys at the Seago lot had been pulled down and taken away. We found two negroes at work there yesterday clearing bricks and at night the police arrested two negroes and two white men with their three teams loaded with brick from that place. . . ."
>
> "November 4—. . . Jabe has been absent since yesterday morning in quest of the stolen horses which we heard of as being in the possession of parties about 20 miles off. He got back this afternoon bringing them with him, much to his joy for their loss chagrined him not a little. The people who had them had bought them for $75, they say from a white man and a nigger on the very night that they were stolen. . . ."

Under the circumstances it was high time for the Fulton County Jail, destroyed in the burning of the city by the Federal army, to be rebuilt. That progress was being made in that direction is indicated by the following report, published in the *Intelligencer* of September 5, 1865:

> "Through the indefatigable industry of that most indefatigable of all men, J. J. Thrasher, Esq., the new jail rapidly approaches completion. The difficulties under which that gentleman has labored as superintendent of its construction have been innumerable and of a nature he could not remedy. The building is neither gorgeous nor picturesque, but it is substantial, and will answer its purpose until a better one can be prepared by the county. It will be ready for the reception of guests within a few days. With a good police force acting in concert with an efficient provost guard, and a new jail, there's no reason why we may not have security to person and property as in 'ye days of yore'."

With the setting up of the Freedmen's Bureau in Georgia during the fall of 1865, steps were taken by it to improve the lot of the Negro. In fact, when General Tillson took charge as Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau in this State, he started energetically upon a campaign to make the ex-slaves earn their own living. In an order dated October 3, 1865, he gave the following commands to his agents: to get work for unemployed Negroes so as to prevent death and starvation in the approaching winter; to refuse rations to able-bodied

Negroes for whom work could be found; to disabuse the Negroes of the false impression about the distribution of lands at Christmas; to help and not to interfere with the fulfilment of (work) contracts already made, whether written or verbal; and to see that contracts for 1866 be written in a set form and duly registered by the superintendent of the district.[68]

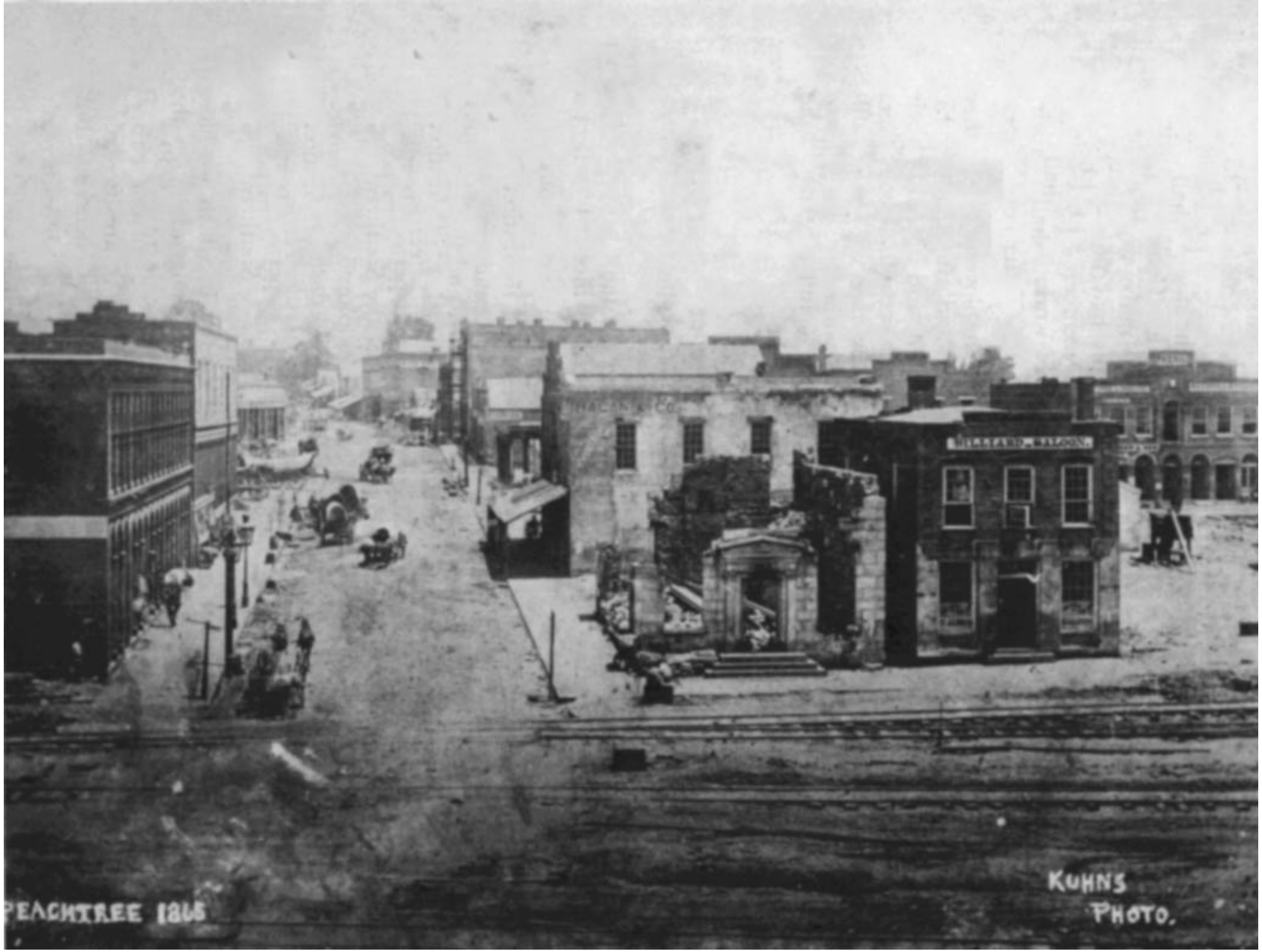
But nothing, not even the Bureau, could disabuse the mind of the Negro of the expected munificence to come at Christmas time. Consequently few planters and other prospective employers were able to make work contracts until after the first of the year and after Santa Claus had failed to come, although the determined order of General Tillson on December 22nd doubtless influenced many Negroes towards facing the necessity of work. One section of the order was as follows:

> "Freed people have the right to select their own employers; but if they continue to neglect or refuse to make contracts, then, on and after January 15, 1866, officers and agents of the Bureau will have the right, and it shall be their duty, to make contracts for them, in all cases where employers offer good wages and kind treatment, unless the freed people belong to the class who have sufficient property to support themselves and their families without contracting to labor, or can show that they can obtain better terms. Contracts so made shall be as binding on both parties as though made with the full consent of the freed people."[69]

The first faltering steps were being taken to resolve, or at least to ameliorate, one of the thorniest problems ever to confront the people of the Atlanta area and the South.

The presentments of the Fulton County grand jury for the October, 1865, term, first since the termination of the war, are interesting since they reflect a hopeful spirit for the future and a desire to forget the war.

> "We concur with our predecessors of the first week [of the October term] in offering our congratulations to the Country upon the cessation of war and the advent of peace. It is the duty of both the Vanquished and the Victorious to recognize the gratifying truth that peace has supervened. Let us endeavor to obliterate all traces of the War and address ourselves to a perfect realization of peace. Such we believe is the solemn determination of the Southern people. The same earnestness they displayed in War now be employed in cultivating the arts of peace as the grand inquest of the Country. We declare our conviction that no rebellious spirit now pervades demanding the scrutiny and power of martial law to detect and subdue. We are at peace and the restoration of civil law is what we most earnestly crave for our protection and development and such. It cannot be denied that the protracted contest in which we have been engaged has left behind some relic of demoralization engendered in the camp. The resumption of manual labor is somewhat irksome to our citizen soldier; hence idleness, vagrancy and a train of attendant vices are increasing to an extent that fills the mind of thinking men with grave apprehensions. But let us hope that these evils which follow in the wake of war will not long survive its termination. . . .
>
> "We recommend to the Honorable Inferior Court to adopt some plan to raise a fund equal to meet the contingent current expenses of the county, and to pay to the City Council of Atlanta an equitable part of the cost of the new jail and to have the County part of the City Hall repaired thoroughly; also to


BILLIARD SALOON
PEACHTREE 1865
KUHNS PHOTO.

(*Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society*)

Peachtree Street, looking north from the railroad in late 1865. Site of Billiard Saloon and ruins of Atlanta Bank now occupied by the Peters Building

build a new bridge over Peachtree Creek on Buckhead road and any other bridges in the county that may be needed. Also to have all the public roads in the county worked upon. . . ."

James F. Cooper, Foreman.

Jonas S. Smith
Coleman F. Wood
John H. Mecaslin
David Demarest
Lewis H. Clarke
Willis Peck
John J. Ford
William A. Wilson
Adam S. Poole
James Ormond
Maxwell R. Berry
Merrill T. Castleberry
John M. Blackburn
Robert Winship
Green T. Dodd
Benjamin E. Crane
Larkin H. Davis
William L. Abbott
Robert J. Massey[70]

The concurrent grand jury of De Kalb County did not concern itself so much with the subject of war vs. peace as it did with trying to find funds upon which to operate. Its presentments, in part, follow:

". . . We find in the hands of the Ordinary the amount of $860.64½ in Confederate States funds, the same being the balance of school fund not disbursed; also that no funds have been received since November 25, 1862. On examination we find the sheriff's book in a neat condition . . . but one entry having been made on the docket since October term of Court, 1862. We find that the County Treasurer has not received any monies, but we find in the hands of the Inferior Court notes amounting to $212.98, and the further sum of eleven dollars in currency belonging to the county. We further find that the amount of $230 in Confederate money was turned over by Levi Willard, the former County Treasurer, to J. M. Hawkins, clerk of the Superior Court.

"On a hasty examination of the books of the clerk of the Superior and Inferior Court we find no entries of the amount of monies received by the latter from the State for distribution to the needy of the county, nor the amount of money that has been distributed by the agents of the Court. We further find that there have been two mules, one wagon and a lot of sacks advertised for sale, but cannot find what disposition was made of them, and consequently request the Inferior Court to investigate the matter and lay it before the people of the county.

"We have examined the Jail and Court House and find them both very much out of repair. All the inner doors of the jail need repairing; also one of the cells and part of the stone steps. The windows of the Court House are in a very bad condition, the sash being broken and the lights out; the walls are defaced and the locks off of some of the doors, altogether rendering the Court House uncomfortable and the jail insecure. We would respectfully recommend the Inferior Court to have them repaired as soon as the funds of the county will allow it. We find that the roads and bridges in the different parts of the county need repairs and we request the Inferior Court to take such steps as are necessary to put them in good order.

"We request the Legislature to relieve the County from the State Tax for the year 1866. . . ."

E. A. Davis, Foreman.[71]

While western De Kalb County suffered heavily as a result of the Battle of Atlanta and associated operations, that section lying east of Decatur and contiguous to the Georgia Railroad took a beating during the march to the sea in November, 1864. One year later, on November 15, 1865, Miss Martha Amanda Quillin (1838-1913), later Mrs. Thomas Hanby Mitchell, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. William Quillin, wrote to her cousin, Sarah E. Quillin in Ipava, Illinois. In her letter Miss Quillin describes graphically the march to the sea as she observed it from her home on Rockbridge Road near Indian Creek Church. She also expresses, in no uncertain terms, her opinion of the Yankees. The letter follows:[72]

"Near Decatur, Georgia,
Nov. 15, 1865.

"Dear Cousin Sallie:

"Yours of Sept. 25 was duly received and should have been promptly answered had not sickness prevented. . . .

"I wrote you in '61, indeed it seems a long time since we have heard from you; true I wrote your Father a line or two a year ago, and committed it to the care of the most reasonable man I found in all Sherman's army. I received his reply in January. It had been inspected and came to me by flag of truce from Savannah. I do not remember anything I wrote your Father, but the circumstances under which it was written can *never* be *forgotten*. Heaven grant I may *never* pass another such day. Could you have looked in upon us but for a moment, you would have thought it impossible for life and reason to survive the torture to which mind and body were that day subjected. But that day had an end, and in safety we welcomed the much needed repose that night alone brought us. But the act of dating my letter brings forcibly to my mind the fact that this day one year ago was the most miserable of all my life. Sherman's troops were then passing us on their way to Savannah.

"Their orders were positive to *burn* and *destroy everything* on their march, and well they executed this most *christian* order of *his most christian majesty*. All day and all night one continual stream of wagons and guards poured by. As darkness came on the work of burning commenced, from Atlanta to Rockbridge, a distance of twenty miles, we in the center. On every side, as far as the eye could reach, the lurid flames of burning buildings lit up the heavens and dissipated the darkness of night. I could stand out on the verandah, and for two or three miles watch them as they came on. I could mark when they reached the residence of each and every friend on the road. I could see the first building fired, and then the torch carried round and round until I knew that everything on the premises was wraped in flames; then hear the wild shout they raised, as torch in hand, they started for the next house. The night was cold, but I never once left my post. With my sister and others I stood from dark until daylight, and watched their onward progress. Calmly I calculated the distance they travelled in a given time; how long it took to fire such a number of buildings, and ascertained almost to the very minute when the torch would be set to our own house. As the flames rolled on I could hear, or fancy that I heard, above the oaths, the yells, the eternal gab of the Yankee army, the screams of the frightened neighbors as the fire swallowed up the labors of a life time. Thus the night rolled on. The Academy, the Church [Indian Creek], in two or three hundred yards of us, were laid in ashes. The torch was several times brought to fire our house, but each time it was extinguished. The sitting room was Headquarters and full of officers who must not be disturbed.

Consequently an order had been given to burn nothing on the place. I knew nothing of it. I looked abroad upon the smoldering ruins, the smoke almost suffocated me. I knew it was not long until daylight—but had no reason to hope that we would have a change of clothing, a mouthful of bread or a roof to shelter us. If it was sin may Heaven forgive me if I prayed that I might never see the destruction, the deep distress, the morn would reveal to me.

"That, too, has all passed and lives only in memory; but no one, I hope, will ever expect me to love Yankees. They tell us the war has ended, and some cry lustily, *peace peace*. I have peered into the deep gloom that surrounds us and can scarce see a glimmer of that welcome visitant. The shadow of a great sorrow has darkened our land. He, who a short time since, was the pride of our Confederacy, the pure statesman, the christian gentleman, the accomplished scholar, our beloved President Jefferson Davis, now ekes out a miserable existence in a Yankee bastille. In proportion as his sufferings increase, our sympathy for him and hatred of his oppressors increase also. One thing in the past few weeks has cheered us a little and that is the return to his home of A. H. Stephens from his long confinement in a Yankee prison. He comes back to us with his head as white as the eternal snows of winter, and we hope, before a great while, to know all that he suffered while there. . . .

"We are not sorry for anything we have done down here, are not repenting, are not whipped or subjugated, or anything of that kind. True, we were with numbers overpowered, but we battled upon our own soil, and for that soil we contended for every principle of honor and justice, and for the most sacred rights—for the sanctity of home, for self government, for the truths of God's word. The North fought for no principle and no right—her sole aim was to subjugate the South.

"We expected to go back to our home in LaFayette when the war ended, but our house and everything there has been burned, and we have nothing to go to. This is now the poorest country in the world, and we are homeless wanderers through the desert. We had nothing left us and nothing to buy with, so I send you a scrap of our dresses we have been making. The cotton grew here and every thread of it was manufactured in the family. I wove it myself. We call it Dixie silk."

[The letter bears no signature.]

Since some years before the war, City Council had endeavored to make arrangements for the opening of Pryor Street across the railroad tracks in front of the passenger depot. However, all efforts in this direction had come to naught, for the property necessary to a right of way had, since 1846, been owned by the Macon and Western Railroad, and its rock depot stood athwart the proposed street crossing.

On the night of November 14-15, 1864, the property of the Macon and Western, in common with all of Atlanta's railroads, received special attention from Sherman's demolition squads, and the rock depot blocking Pryor Street became a pile of rubble.

It therefore occurred to Council in the summer of 1865 that the time was propitious for a deal with the M. & W. On June 29th a resolution by Councilman Sasseen was adopted providing that the mayor confer with the authorities of the M. & W. about removing its destroyed facilities to another and less centrally located site, so that Pryor Street might be opened. A committee to work with the mayor was appointed, consisting of Councilmen Sasseen and

Richardson, and Messrs. Sidney Root, James R. Crew, W. W. Clayton, ——— Brown, and Alfred Austell. On July 3rd George W. Adair succeeded Z. A. Rice in Council, and the same day Adair and L. P. Grant were added to the Pryor Street committee.[73]

With the addition of Adair to the committee, things began to move. Andrew J. White, acting president of the M. & W., was induced to come to Atlanta to negotiate. When the proposal was put before him he said he was amenable provided suitable ground could be found elsewhere. Colonel Adair had just embarked in the real estate business, and realized that the best way to sell or trade property was to examine it. Consequently he and Mr. White took a walk. Starting at the State Square they walked west and southwest, along the railroad tracks to Mitchell Street.[74]

The land now occupied by the Central of Georgia freight house and the Terminal Station, then mostly vacant, except a portion owned by Richard Peters, and used by him as a goat lot, appealed to Mr. White. In addition to lying along the line of his railroad, it was spacious as compared with the cramped quarters adjacent to the State Square. White agreed to trade the entire plot owned by his railroad, being the block bounded by Whitehall, Alabama and Loyd streets and the State Square, with the exception of the northeast corner of Whitehall and Alabama, then the Holland Reserve, now the Atlanta National Bank Building site (71 x 90 feet), for the Peters goat lot and a couple of adjoining parcels owned by William Solomon. Colonel Adair was able to buy this property for $25,000—$3,000 in greenbacks and the balance in ten year 7% bonds. The parties deeded the land to the Macon and Western Railroad, whereupon the railroad on October 25, 1865, gave the City of Atlanta a quit claim deed to its old depot and turn table track site adjoining the State Square.[75]

Soon after the trade was consummated, the M. & W. vacated its old property and the city was able to open Pryor Street across the tracks. The Macon and Western deal was the first of a number of real estate transactions which, during the course of the next five years, were destined to completely transform the old State Square and the center of the city.

Aside from opening Pryor Street, the city made no improvements upon, or attempts to sell, the block bounded by Whitehall, Alabama, Pryor Street and the railroad tracks. With the exception of the James (Atlanta National) Bank corner, it remained vacant for some years, as to buildings but not as to activity. It became one of the busiest vacant lots in town. A steady succession of circuses, carnivals, medicine shows, snake-oil men, fakirs and auctioneers rented it from the city. The lot, because of its central location, was a perfect site for drawing crowds. Under the glow of kerosene or pine knot torches, itinerant salesmen could be seen exhibiting their wares and lustily exercising their lungs in appeals for sales.[76]

Among those who made a hit with the assembled crowds was one Jones, a smooth talker, stylishly attired and sporting a silk hat. His specialty was benzine soap, recommended to clean everything from a dirty coat collar to a soiled conscience. He made demonstrations on all collars handed up to him, accompanying the exercises with a captivating spiel. As an additional attraction he always had with him a tall bewhiskered musician named Lad Williams, a virtuoso of the violin and banjo. Williams also sang, one of his specialties being:

"Hail Columbia, right side up,
Andrew Johnson's in the chair.
Swing your knapsack, take the back track,
Sitting Bull is on a tear."

This number was sung and played to the air of *Hold the Fort.*

It was inevitable that this piece of ground should acquire a distinctive name. It soon did. Dr. W. C. Connally, local editor of the *Intelligencer,* designated the property as "Humbug Square," an appellation it retained until it finally disappeared under a block of business buildings.[77]

One of Atlanta's best citizens fell a victim to the lawlessness of the times in late 1865. James R. Crew was born on a farm near Covington, Georgia, November 5, 1823, and in the middle 1840's came to Atlanta as an employee of the Georgia Railroad. Later he became a conductor on this road and, finally, in 1851, general ticket agent for all the roads entering Atlanta. From mid 1860 through 1862 Mr. Crew served usefully in City Council from the second ward, his home being on the south side of Mitchell Street between Washington and McDonough (Capitol Avenue). During September, 1864, he and James M. Ball served as civilian envoys between Sherman and Hood in the matter of the eviction of the people of Atlanta. In February, 1850, Mr. Crew had married Miss Jane Louisa Killian, of Madison, Georgia.[78]

On the evening of November 29, 1865, Mr. Crew had come home at six o'clock, eaten a hurried supper, and returned to his office, which was in a temporary wooden building at the corner of Loyd Street (Central Avenue) and the Georgia Railroad. As he worked on that moonlit November night he little suspected that a plot was afoot to rob and if necessary murder him. A few days before, Dennis Harris, a local Negro, together with two companions from Macon, Henry Brown and Bill, hatched a plot to rob the ticket agent. On the fatal night they repaired to the car shed, then a temporary wooden structure, where Dennis entertained the various hotel porters by dancing a jig. After the trains had departed the three Negroes walked through the car shed and picked up a heavy iron bar at the nearby turntable.

When Mr. Crew left his office on foot about 9 o'clock, his route home took him down Loyd to Alabama; thence to Washington, and by the City Hall to Mitchell, where he turned left. When about twenty-five feet from the residence of William Solomon,[79] where he and his wife were boarding, he having previously sold his own home next door, Dennis Harris slipped up from behind and struck him on the head with the iron bar. As he was falling he uttered two words, "Oh me!" At this juncture Henry Brown ran up and searching the victim's pockets, found only a key. Thinking that it was the key to the ticket office, the robbers returned to the office but failed to gain entry. The key, it turned out, was to the door of the Central Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Crew was deeply interested and his wife a charter member. Some while later Crew recovered sufficiently to stagger to the gate of the Solomon house and up the walk, where he fell insensible on the steps. Two days later he died of a fractured skull, having regained but slight consciousness.

The murdered man was laid to rest at Oakland Cemetery. Sixteen years later Mrs. Crew became the second wife of Colonel L. P. Grant, whose first wife had died several years previously. After West View Cemetery was opened in the 80's, Colonel Grant bought a lot there on Laurel Hill, to which he moved the bodies of his first wife and Mr. Crew. Grant joined them in 1893.

and the group was again brought together in 1912 when the second Mrs. Grant and widow of James R. Crew was laid between her two husbands. Crew Street in Atlanta perpetuates the memory of the good citizen whose name it bears.

Dennis Harris, the murderer, after committing several local burglaries, was caught, convicted and hanged at Irwinton, Georgia, in late 1866. His confederates escaped.[80]

During the same month in which James R. Crew died, the City Hall neighborhood acquired a new and distinguished resident. Ex-Governor Joseph E. Brown, having received his pardon from the Federal authorities in September, 1865, was casting about for a place to live. His tenure in the governor's mansion at Milledgeville being over, and the houses on his farm in Cherokee County having been burned, he decided upon Atlanta. Sidney Root, whose business had been swept away by the war, was preparing to move to New York City, and sold his home at Washington and Jones Street (now Woodward Avenue) to the Governor for $20,000 cash. In December the latter moved his family to Atlanta, where he continued to live in the same home, now the site of the Central Night School, 345 Washington Street, until his death in 1894.[81]

The Atlanta of 1865 was not a placid place and was certainly no Mecca for those seeking a quiet unhurried atmosphere. Sidney Andrews, a correspondent for Boston and Chicago newspapers, paid the city a visit in the fall of that year and recorded his observations and impressions. They reveal a town much more akin to the West than to the old South:

> "From all this ruin and devastation a new city is springing up with marvelous rapidity. The narrow and irregular and numerous streets are alive from morning till night with drays and carts and hand-barrows and wagons,—with hauling teams and shouting men,—with loads of lumber and loads of brick and loads of sand,—with piles of furniture and hundreds of packed boxes,—with mortar-makers and hod-carriers,—with carpenters and masons,—with rubbish removers and house-builders,—with a never ending throng of pushing and crowding and scrambling and eager and excited and enterprising men, all bent on building and trading and swift fortune making. Chicago in her busiest days could scarcely show such a sight as clamors for observation here. Every horse and mule and wagon is in active use. The four railroads centering here groan with the freight and passenger traffic, and yet are unable to meet the demand of the nervous and palpitating city. Men rush about the streets with but little regard for comfort or pleasure, and yet find the days all too short and too few for the work in hand. The sound of the saw and plane and hammer rings out from daylight till dark, and yet master-builders are worried with offered contracts which they cannot take. Rents are so high that they would seem fabulous on Lake Street, and yet there is the most urgent cry for store-room and office-room. . . . Atlanta seems to be the center from which this new life radiates; it is the great Exchange, where you will find everybody if you only wait and watch. I saw it with wonder, and think of it with ever increasing wonder. The very genius of the West, holding in the one hand all its energies and in the other all its extravagancies, is there; not sitting in the supreme ease of settled pause, but standing in the nervous tension of expected movement. What is thus affirmed of Atlanta is to a less extent true of twenty other places in that quarter of the state."[82]

Atlanta had no inhibitions, had no birthright to lose. Never a typically Southern city before the war, it would not become so afterwards. From the ashes of war it could start anew in any direction. The direction it took was rather accurately observed by Sidney Andrews.[83]

NOTES—CHAPTER 43

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 243; *Annual Reports,* City of Atlanta, 1899, p. 581.

[2] Reed, *Atlanta,* 249.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 90.

[6] *Ibid.,* 91.

[7] *Ibid.*

[8] Probably referring to Miss Maggie Poole, who later became the wife of William H. Smythe.

[9] Photostat of original on file Atlanta Historical Society, the gift of A. D. Adair, Sr., son of its writer.

[10] Commission Book, Department of Archives and History, Atlanta.

[11] Fraser, near Fair Street.

[12] Lickskillet (Gordon Road), at present West View Cemetery gate house. It was on the Ezra Church battlefield of July 28, 1864.

[13] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1865, Book D.

[14] Diligent inquiry by the present writer has not disclosed where the books were taken for safe keeping.

[15] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1865, Book D.

[16] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 500, 638. Biographical Sketch of Judge John Collier, *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 17, 1873.

[17] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 638.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] *Atlanta Weekly Intelligencer,* Mar. 1, 1865.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] Hornady, *Atlanta,* 65.

[23] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 639; Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 166-167.

[24] Reed, *Atlanta,* 210.

[25] *Ibid.*

[26] *Ibid.,* 211.

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] Under the circumstances, Mr. Maguire was very charitable.

[29] C. Mildred Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia, Economic, Social, Political, 1865-1872* (New York, 1915), 140. Hereafter cited as Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia.* Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 251.

[30] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 252.

[31] *Ibid.*

[32] *Ibid.;* Avery, *History of Georgia,* 341.

[33] Reed, Atlanta, 211.

[34] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 199.

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] Reed, *Atlanta,* 213; "Garrett's Necrology."

[37] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 141.

[38] Reed, *Atlanta,* 250.

[39] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 200.

[40] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, p. 322.

[41] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 352.

[42] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Prince Who Ruled Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Jan. 14, 1934.

[43] Apparently Salm's predecessor for a short time.

[44] Kurtz, "Prince Who Ruled Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[45] *Ibid.*

[46] *Ibid.*

[47] *Ibid.*

[48] Typewritten letter, Charles J. Steward to Franklin M. Garrett, Sept. 19, 1941, containing Steward family data.

[49] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[50] Joshua O'Neal, "Running on Twisted Rails," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* May 29, 1927.

[51] Coal was not generally used as locomotive fuel in the South until the middle 1870's.

[52] South side of Peters Street (now Trinity Ave.), between Whitehall and Forsyth.

[53] F. Phinizy Calhoun, A.B., M.D., "The Founding and the Early History of The Atlanta Medical College, 1854-1875," *Georgia Historical Quarterly,* IX, 1 (Mar., 1925) 46-47.

[54] Record of Postmasters, Fulton.

[55] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* Sept. 9, 1865.

[56] Medora Field Perkerson, "Sixth Broad Street Bridge," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* July 5, 1931.

[57] Reed, *Atlanta,* 409-410; Feldman, "Checklist of Atlanta Newspapers," 35; *Memoirs of Georgia,* I, 931.

[58] Feldman, "Checklist," 36; *Atlanta City Directory,* 1867, p. 234.

[59] Edward A. Darby, *Fiftieth Anniversary, The Atlanta National Bank, 1865-1915* (Atlanta, 1915), 7-14.

[60] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[61] "First National Bank to Celebrate 70th Anniversary Next Wednesday," *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 15, 1935.

[62] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* Aug. 29, 1865.

[63] *Ibid.,* Aug. 10, 1865.

[64] Nathaniel J. Hammond.

[65] Sarah Huff, *My 80 Years in Atlanta,* 67.

[66] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 42, *ff.*

[67] *Ibid.*

[68] *Ibid.*

[69] *Ibid.*

[70] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1865, Book D.

[71] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1865, Book D.

[72] Photostat of original on file Atlanta Historical Society, the gift of George W. Clower, grandson of Miss Quillin, later Mrs. Mitchell.

[73] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 91, 92.

[74] *Ibid.,* 187.

[75] *Ibid.,* 187, 188, 191, 193; Fulton County Deed Book TT, 220; *W. & A. Right of Way Case,* 350, 352.

[76] Eugene M. Mitchell, "Queer Place Names in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* V (April, 1931), 28.

[77] David B. Freeman, "Where Was Atlanta's Humbug Square?," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* 1923. J. S. Pope, "Circus on Humbug Square," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Sept. 25, 1927.

[78] T. D. Killian, "James R. Crew," *A.H.B.,* VI (Feb. 1932) 5-15.

[79] Present site of State Office Building, Mitchell Street across from State Capitol.

[80] Killian, "James R. Crew," *loc. cit.; Atlanta Intelligencer,* Jan. 15, 1867; "Garrett's Necrology."

[81] Avery, *Hisory of Georgia,* 347; "Garrett's Necrology;" Walter McElreath, "Sidney Root, Merchant Prince and Great Citizen," *A.H.B.,* XXIX (Oct. 1944), 179; Richard's Diary, Nov. 4, 1865.

[82] Quoted in Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 100.

[83] E. Merton Coulter, *The South During Reconstruction, 1865-1877* (Baton Rouge, La., 1947), VII, 256.

CHAPTER 44

1866

DURING 1866 the government of Georgia functioned normally except for the presence of Federal troops and the Freedmen's Bureau. Considerable progress, in fact, was made in the re-establishment of the economic life of the people. The year, however, did mark the beginning of the memorable struggle between the President and Congress of the United States over the reconstruction of the seceded and conquered states. President Johnson's plan was based upon the theory that the Southern States never had been out of the Union, but that their attempt to secede had placed them in a condition of suspended vitality. This was consistent with Lincoln's theory that the war had been waged not against the States as such, but against combinations of individuals too powerful to be dealt with by the ordinary processes of law. From this it logically was a matter to be adjusted by the President and not by Congress. Unfortunately for the South, that was not to be.[1]

President Johnson had exacted the abolition of slavery by the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution and by the repudiation of Confederate war debts. These demands had been complied with and the Southern States reorganized. In April, 1866, the President proclaimed peace restored, and the great insurrection at an end. The war of blood was indeed over, but the war of malice and proscription to be waged against the South by Congress, led by Charles Sumner and Thaddeus Stevens, was yet to break in all its fury.[2]

A committee of fifteen, set up by Congress to inquire into the conditions of the Southern States and to report whether they were entitled to representation in Congress, reported a Civil Rights bill early in 1866. This bill declared citizens all persons born in the United States, except Indians not taxed and foreign subjects. It guaranteed equal rights to such citizens and reserved cases under this law to the Federal courts. President Johnson vetoed the bill in March but it was passed over his veto. Its main features were included in a proposed Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution which made Negroes citizens, reduced representation in Congress in proportion to citizens refused the voting privilege, and disfranchised all citizens who had held office before the war and fought on the Southern side.[3]

The amendment was fiercely opposed all over the South, and following President Johnson's advice, was rejected by the legislature of every Southern State, including Georgia's, in November, 1866. The President attempted an appeal to the nation in the congressional election of 1866 but, unfortunately for him and for the South, the radicals carried both houses of Congress by sweeping majorities, thus assuring defeat of Johnson's program of reconstruction. The year closed with conservatism baffled and beaten in national matters.[4]

While the battle between the President and Congress over the course reconstruction was to take occupied the center of the stage during 1866, local events pursued the not always even tenor of their way.

The terms of the officers of Fulton and De Kalb elected in 1864 having expired, some changes were made in court house personnel. In Fulton, on January 22, 1866, Benjamin N. Williford, former town marshal of Atlanta, became sheriff; William R. Venable succeeded himself as Clerk of the Superior Court; Jethro W. Manning took over as Clerk of the Inferior Court. William Kile succeeded William B. "Dad" Chapman as Coroner, and Daniel P. Ferguson continued in office as Treasurer. On March 8, Samuel Grubb succeeded J. I. Miller as Tax Receiver and John R. L. Wilson became Tax Collector. He was replaced by J. M. Harwell on August 9th.[5]

In De Kalb, on January 22nd, James O. Powell, former Sheriff, went back into office succeeding Oliver Winningham; J. M. Hawkins continued as Clerk of both the Superior and Inferior Courts, holding the latter office until February 16, 1867, when Thomas R. Hoyle relieved him. H. R. Jackson was elected Coroner, and Robert Jones was re-elected Surveyor. On March 8 I. N. Nash became Tax Receiver, and Henry Gentry Tax Collector. John N. Pate was sworn in as Treasurer on April 14th.[6]

The title of Justice of the Inferior Court, soon to become extinct, was assumed in Fulton County during 1866 by Edward M. Talliaferro, Ira O. McDaniel, William Watkins, and J. T. Porter, and on March 23, 1867, by Julius A. Hayden. In De Kalb, Dr. Peter F. Hoyle, commissioned in 1866, and James Polk, John Bryce and Joseph Walker, commissioned in 1867, became the last to hold the office. The Inferior Courts of the State were abolished by the Constitution of 1868, and their functions largely assumed by County Ordinaries.[7]

James M. Calhoun, who for four long and turbulent years had served ably and faithfully as Atlanta's mayor, was relieved of his responsibility in 1866. At an election held in December, 1865, James E. Williams, the commission merchant from East Tennessee, and a resident since 1851, was elected to succeed Calhoun. His Council, elected at the same time, was composed of:

First Ward—A. P. Bell and Daniel P. Ferguson.
Second Ward—Philip E. McDaniel and Francis M. Richardson.
Third Ward—Robert Crawford and James G. Kelley.
Fourth Ward—W. T. Mead and James H. Porter.
Fifth Ward—Anthony Murphy and B. D. Smith.

During the year Councilmen Porter and McDaniel resigned and were succeeded by Robert M. Farrar and Alexander W. Mitchell, respectively.[8]

In his inaugural address Mayor Williams said:

"We have recently passed through a war which has borne with peculiar weight upon our city. But a few years since Atlanta was one of the most flourishing cities in the South. The Federal army left it in ashes. But yesterday it seemed as if the pall of death had overspread it. Today how changed! It is yet but a few short months since our citizens, penniless and houseless, began to return with hearts sad at the desolation which everywhere met their eyes. But with unconquerable will they set about rebuilding the waste places, and repairing, as far as human energy could do, their lost fortunes. How well they have succeeded you all know. What prospects we have before us all may anticipate. We cannot recall the past. We cannot cease to mourn for those who have gone from among us forever. But we may still cherish the hope that there is in store for us a bright future. Though there is much to encourage, yet there are difficulties to be met which must challenge our wisest counsels, and our best efforts and energies. Our streets, wells and pumps, public buildings and grounds, cemetery, gas, fire department, city poor, all demand our immediate attention, etc."[9]

At the conclusion of the Mayor's address the following officers were elected: Clerk, S. B. Love; Treasurer, Joseph T. Porter; Marshal, G. Whit Anderson; Deputy Marshal, Willis P. Lanier; City Attorney, Samuel B. Hoyt; First Lieutenant of Police, Lovick P. Thomas; City Physician, Elisha J. Roach; Sexton, G. A. Pilgrim; Surveyor, W. B. Bass; Tax Receiver and Collector, Columbus M. Payne; Superintendent of Streets, George Stewart.[10]

The names of the thirty-two policemen assembled under Lovick P. Thomas in January, 1866, constitute a roll of honor. With hardly an exception they had served in the Confederate army. Due to their courage, patience and discretion Atlanta escaped any serious clash between whites and Negroes at a time when Federal soldiers were in force here; Negro regiments were paid off and mustered out of service here; when the camp followers of the army and the starving, desperate paupers of the surrounding country, both white and black, were collected here by the distribution of rations through the Freedmen's Bureau. The honor roll follows:

William Y. Langford, 2nd Lt.
Thomas W. Keltner
Daniel C. Venable
David M. Queen
E. Dave L. Mobley
John C. Head
J. H. McConnell
Samuel Goudy
James T. Peacock
Lewis R. Lanier
A. G. Rice
James R. Love
J. P. Porter
R. B. Hutchins
James D. Barnes
J. L. Crenshaw
John L. Johnson
Jeptha A. Lang
W. H. Jones
C. F. Wood
James A. Lanier
Ed A. Center
J. Sid Holland
George J. Stokes
Nicholas Rooney
Russell Crawford
J. M. Watson
J. M. Starnes
Henry J. Holtzclaw
William S. Hancock
George Bomar.[11]

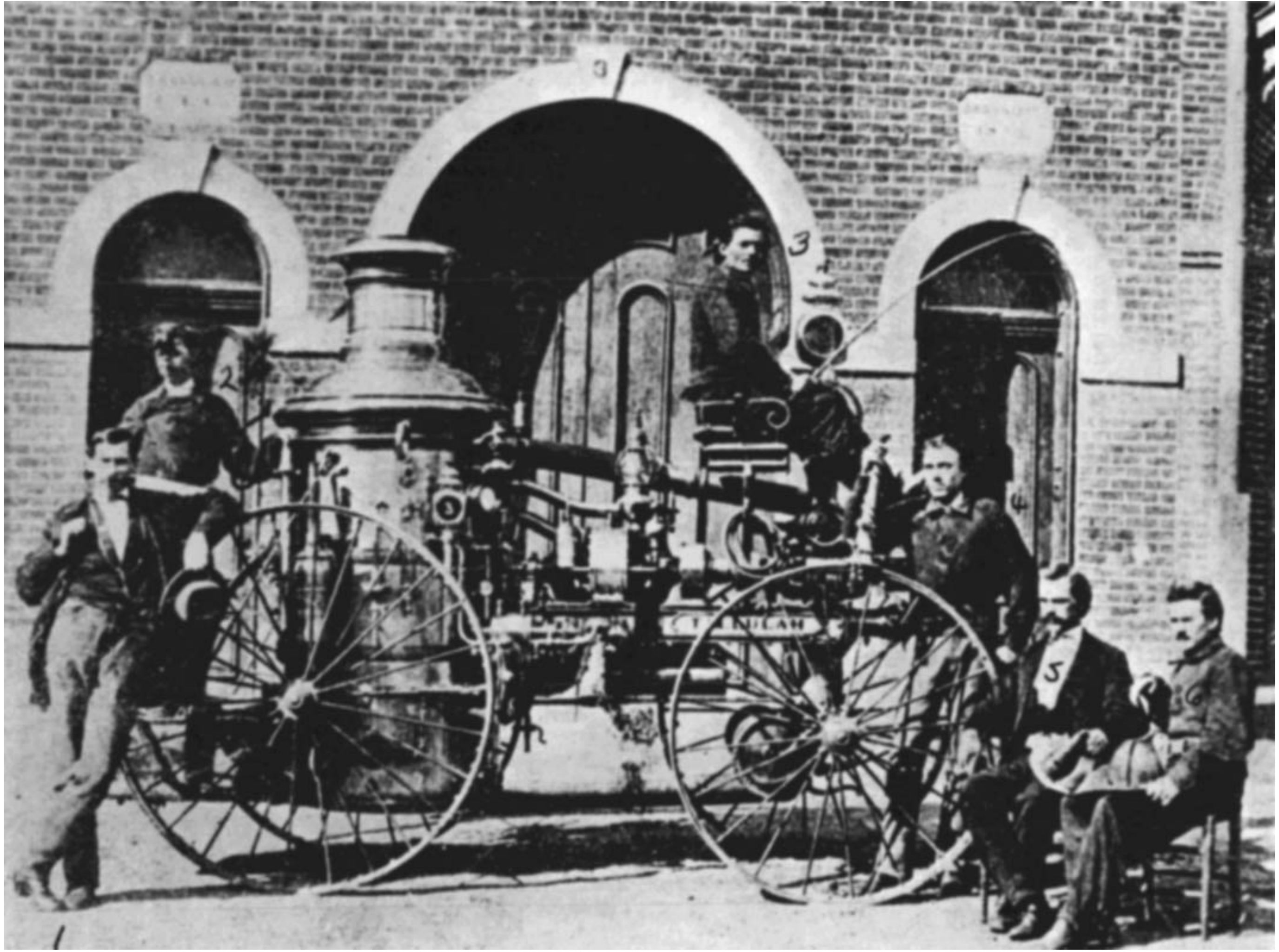
Most of these men subsequently engaged in other pursuits, but their courageous police efforts in the Atlanta of 1866 and the period immediately following commend their names to posterity.

An Act of the Legislature, approved March 12, 1866, provided that the corporate limits of the City of Atlanta be so extended as to measure one mile and a half in each and every direction from the general passenger depot, the center of the present corporate limits.[12] In October an election was held to determine whether this amendment to the charter should be accepted by the people. It resulted in 152 votes for and 30 votes against the extension.[13] Except for a small southwest extension in 1854 and one to the southeast in 1863, this was the first time the original mile circle of 1847 had been generally extended in all directions. The city limits now ran to the present Third Street on the North; Atlanta Avenue on the South; Pearl and Waddell streets on the East, and to just beyond Chestnut Street on the West.

It was also during 1866 that a number of ante-bellum Atlanta street names disappeared. Some of them were:

Cherokee Street—changed to Line Street.

(Line Street consisted of the present Edgewood Avenue, from Peachtree to Pryor, and Exchange Place to Ivy Street.)



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Fire engine "Tallulah" of Tallulah Fire Company No. 3 (Volunteer), in front of the engine house on Broad Street, west side, between Marietta and Walton Streets, about 1866. Six members of the company are posed with the engine. Atlanta was served exclusively by volunteer fire companies until 1882, when a paid fire department was organized

Crap's Alley—changed to Trebursey Street.
(Now known as Tatnall Street.)
Delay Street—changed to Henry Street.
(Now known as Tyler Street.)
Duncan Street—changed to Bartow Street.
Faith's Alley—changed to Rawson Street.
Fillmore Street—from Pratt Street east, changed to Gilmer Street.
Henry Alley—changed to Richardson Street.
John's Alley—changed to Fulton Street.
Mobb's Alley—changed to Crumley Street.
Stockton Street—changed to Mitchell Street.
(Present Mitchell west of Terminal Station.)
Wadley Street—changed to Forsyth Street.
(From railroad crossing, north.)[14]

One of the first problems to confront the city fathers of 1866, and the medical facilities of the city, was a smallpox epidemic. Starting in late 1865, the epidemic had, by January, 1866, reached large proportions. At a meeting of Council on January 19th, Dr. H. H. Tucker donated, for the use of the city's sick, one hundred pairs of blankets, and upon the earnest request of both Mayor and Council, agreed to solicit help from others. Council then ordered a temporary hospital built and placed $10,000 in the hands of the Relief Committee to meet the emergency.[15]

About the same time Dr. Willis F. Westmoreland, on behalf of the Atlanta Medical College, offered to give free attention to the pauper sick. However, Council declined this offer because the ignorant poor people feared the college surgeons wanted their bodies for dissection. On January 26th Dr. Eli Griffin was placed in charge of the city smallpox hospital and Council ordered compulsory vaccination. At the same meeting the Freedmen's Bureau was asked to move the Negro smallpox hospital beyond the city limits and agreed to furnish the necessary lumber. A spot was selected on Peachtree Road some two miles out for this hospital, where James L. Dunning, in charge of the Bureau, greatly relieved the city by caring for sick and starving Negroes.[16]

On February 4th, and again on the 18th, S. P. Richards noted the smallpox epidemic in his diary. On the 4th he wrote: "There is a great deal of smallpox now in our city. Some 300 or 400 cases it is said." On the 18th: "The smallpox is very prevalent now all over the country. Mr. Root says it is worse in Macon than it is here and it is pretty bad here."

Indeed, on February 9th Council passed a resolution allowing all regular physicians $50 for vaccinating persons subject to the disease, and, the number of cases being too large to quarantine, ordered a red flag to be hung out at every house containing a smallpox case. By August 10th, when the epidemic had been brought under control, the Relief Committee reported total expenditures of $24,986.26, including maintenance of the smallpox hospital.[17]

It was also in August, 1866, on the 31st, that the Atlanta Medical College graduated its first post-war class, consisting of 28 fledgling doctors. The exercises were marked by an alumni valedictory delivered by M. D. Sterrett, M.D.; an address to the graduates by Captain Henry Jackson, and the reading of a poem by Dr. Alexander Means.[18]

Under date of Thursday, April 26, 1866, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary:

"This day has been generally observed as a fit occasion throughout the land to honor the dead who shed their blood for the South, and to decorate their graves with flowers and evergreens. The women of the South have taken this under their charge. Thousands have visited the cemetery [Oakland] today. . . . Nearly all of the stores were closed today in honor of the brave dead. I think this is a natural and laudable manifestation, and don't care whether the Yankees think so or not."

Mr. Richards had set forth his impressions of Atlanta's first Confederate Memorial Day.

As a matter of fact the custom of placing flowers on the graves of Southern soldiers began immediately after the war in 1865. Mrs. Mary A. Williams of Columbus, Georgia, was wont to make frequent trips to the cemetery there for the purpose of placing flowers on the grave of her husband, C. J. Williams, colonel of the First Georgia Regulars, who had died in the spring of 1862. One day her little daughter, who had accompanied her, asked permission to put flowers on the graves of other soldiers nearby. This incident suggested to the mother the idea of having one day in the year devoted to decorating, with appropriate ceremonies, the graves of the Confederate dead. At a meeting of ladies in Columbus, Mrs. Williams was appointed to write a letter to the public on the subject. Her letter, in which she proposed April 26th, the day of Johnston's surrender to Sherman in North Carolina, as appropriate, was widely published, and her suggestion met with immediate favor all over the South.[19]

On April 15, 1866, inspired by Mrs. Williams' letter, the Atlanta Ladies' Memorial Association was formed—the second in the South, having been preceded only three days by a similar organization in Columbus. Moving spirit in the local association was Mrs. Joseph H. Morgan, formerly Miss Eugenia Goode, daughter of Major and Mrs. Hamilton Goode of Atlanta. She had served for three years, under Mrs. Isaac Winship, as secretary of the Atlanta Hospital Association during the late war. Mrs. Morgan requested Mrs. W. W. Clayton and her daughters, Misses Julia and Sallie Clayton, later Mrs. E. F. Hoge and Mrs. Benjamin E. Crane, respectively, to unite with her in calling the ladies together, and in making preparations to celebrate Memorial Day as requested by Mrs. Williams.[20]

Within two days these ladies, together with Mrs. Dr. J. N. Simmons, went out among their friends and raised $350 which was used to clear that section of Oakland Cemetery in which were buried Confederate soldiers, of blackberry bushes and other undergrowth. They then sent to Stone Mountain for cedar, which was brought to Atlanta free by the Georgia Railroad. From the cedar were fashioned wreathes, crosses and other designs for the occasion.[21]

Both the *Intelligencer* and the *New Era* espoused the movement and urged the merchants of Atlanta to observe Memorial Day by a general closing of stores. There was no formal oration at the cemetery due to positive orders from Federal officers. But Colonel E. F. Hoge, then an attorney, later founder of the *Atlanta Journal,* in a few well-chosen words, introduced the chaplain of the occasion, Rev. Robert Q. Mallard, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, who offered an eloquent prayer, prefaced by a few opening remarks.[22] Thus was celebrated Atlanta's first Confederate Memorial Day.

Within a few days a Memorial Association was constituted with Dr. J. P. Logan as President; Mrs. Joseph H. Morgan, 1st Vice-President; Mrs. E. B. Walker, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. J. N. Simmons, 3rd Vice-President, and a board of directors composed as follows: General G. T. Anderson, Colonel John S. Prather, Colonel E. F. Hoge, Major Austin Leyden, Captain W. M.

Williams, Dr. J. G. Westmoreland, Mrs. R. Bass, Mrs. J. M. Johnson, and Mrs. W. F. Westmoreland. Dr. Logan promptly declined the executive honors, deferring to Mrs. Morgan, who became first president. She served two years, but remained active in the Association until her death in 1924, fifty-eight years later.[23]

A successor of Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Dr. John M. Johnson, sister of two noted Confederate Generals, Howell and Thomas R. R. Cobb, assumed the task of removing the dead bodies of Confederate soldiers from the trenches and battlefields within a ten-mile radius of Atlanta. Mrs. Johnson, with unabated energy, supervised this heruclean task personally; secured lumber, a hard item to come by at the time, for boxes; and induced City Council to make additional space available in the cemetery for some 3,000 bodies. In the meantime Major Joseph H. Morgan painted and lettered 500 headboards with which to mark the graves of his fallen comrades. During the removal process Mrs. Johnson found between 80 and 100 soldiers buried in army blankets, with their hands crossed and with their caps over their faces.[24]

The original nineteen members of the Atlanta Ladies' Memorial Association were:

Mrs. Joseph H. Morgan
Mrs. Hamilton Goode
Mrs. W. W. Clayton
Miss Julia Clayton (Mrs. E. F. Hoge)
Miss Sallie Clayton (Mrs. B. E. Crane)
Miss Mary Clayton (Mrs. C. W. Henderson)
Mrs. John Neal
Miss Ella Neal (Mrs. John Keely)
Mrs. Daniel Pittman
Mrs. Willis Peck
Mrs. Er Lawshe
Mrs. D. Grant (Mrs. J. W. Fears)
Mrs. J. N. Simmons
Mrs. J. M. Johnson
Mrs. W. F. Westmoreland
Mrs. Joseph Winship
Mrs. E. B. Walker
Miss Lizzie Hoge
Miss Mary Grant (Mrs. William Dickson)[25]

The following ladies have served the organization as President:

Mrs. Joseph H. Morgan	Apr. 15, 1866-May 7, 1868
Mrs. John B. Gordon	May 7, 1868-May, 1869
Mrs. J. M. Johnson	May, 1869-May, 1881
Mrs. W. W. Clayton	May, 1881-May,1882
Mrs. B. A. Pratte	May, 1882-May, 1884
Mrs. Mary DeSaussure	May-Oct., 1884
Mrs. John Milledge	Oct. 16, 1884-Apr. 29, 1895
Mrs. William D. Ellis	Apr. 29, 1895-June 9, 1919
Mrs. William A. Wright	June 9, 1919-Feb., 1932
Mrs. Arthur McD. Wilson, Jr.	Feb. 26, 1932-Sept. 26, 1941
Miss Willie Fort Williams	Sept. 26, 1941-Sept. 24, 1943
Mrs. John L. Harper	Sept. 24, 1943-Sept. 28, 1945
Mrs. John W. Rice	Sept. 28, 1945-Sept. 27, 1946
Mrs. William M. Rapp, Sr.	Sept. 27, 1946-Sept. 28, 1951[26]

Some later accomplishments of this useful and patriotic organization will be related in subsequent chapters.

Contemporaneously with Atlanta's first Memorial Day, the Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April term handed in its presentments. While in a fog on county finances, the jurymen expressed hope for the future:

"We find no entry made upon the books of the County Treasurer since April, 1865, thus making it impossible to ascertain the financial condition of the county.

"We find the Court House in a mutilated condition, having from appearances never been renovated since the late war, and would respectfully request the Military commander at this post to procure, if consistent, other quarters than the Court House so that proper authorities may take the necessary steps to have the same repaired.

"We recommend that no tax be assessed for school purposes the present year, believing as we do that it would be burdensome to the people of the County.

"The present condition of our community is doubtless a source of astonishment to those who are ignorant of the true character of our people. Industry is rapidly obliterating the traces of desolution, and on every hand are presented the cherished evidence of energy and enterprise having sacrificed everything in the pursuance of a course to which their conception of duty called them."

STEPHEN B. OATMAN, Foreman.

Isaac E. Bartlett
Bernard T. Lamb
James M. Bryant
John B. Turner
John C. Hendrix
John C. White
John T. Hall
Henry Bankston
John W. Evans
Holcomb H. Glenn
William H. Stephens
Peter Huge
John D. Wells
Francis M. Berry
Willis Peck
Isaac Y. Sawtell
Cornelius P. Cassin
Vines Fish
John C. Rogers
John A. Doane
Oliver H. Jones
Henry Holmes[27]

By August some light was thrown on potential county revenue by publication of the following in the *Weekly Intelligencer:*

"Fulton County Taxes.

We are indebted to the Receiver of Tax Returns, Mr. Samuel Grubb, for the following items, taken from the tax books of this county:

White polls	1,542
White polls in default	102
Professions	65
Professions in default	3
Number of acres of land	171,960
Aggregate value of land	$1,212,455
Aggregate value of city property	$5,328,450
Amount of money and solvent debts	$ 930,574
Merchandise	$ 914,894
Capital invested in stocks, manufactures, etc.	$ 151,124

Household furniture	$ 60,618
Value of all other property not before enumerated	$ 204,361
Aggregate value of whole property	$8,802,476
Number of gallons of whiskey sold	24,783½"[28]

The Fulton grand jury for the second week of the April, 1866, term made another and more stirring plea to the military to vacate the City Hall. It said:

"We earnestly and respectfully request the Military authorities at this Post to vacate the City Hall, that it may be renovated, which is absolutely necessary for the comfort of County and City officers and the administration of Justice. The occupancy by the soldiers [in tents] of these grounds, being in the immediate vicinity of four of the principal churches in the City, and the frequent beating of the drums during divine service on the Lord's day induces us to request that some other less annoying site be selected for the use of the soldiers. . . ."

JAMES F. COOPER, Foreman.[29]

The De Kalb County grand jurors for the April, 1866, term, through their presentments, expressed optimism for the future, but felt, as did their Fulton County contemporaries, that education could very well be put in abeyance.

"It is gratifying to us, and we feel that it is so to every good citizen, that the country is again restored to peace, with the Union of the States unimpaired, and we hope that the efforts of the people will be to perpetuate that Union and build up and restore our desolated country, and make that paramount to building up political parties. This alone can be done by encouraging proper emigration, and all the labor in the various branches that are induced by the fertility of our soil, genial climate, and the many advantages bestowed upon us by a kind Providence. . . .

"We feel unwilling under present circumstances to recommend any appropriation for educational purposes at present, thinking the people will be sufficiently taxed without. . . ."

JOSEPH WALKER, Foreman.[30]

Despite the expendable limbo to which Fulton and De Kalb grand jurors of 1866 consigned education, it remained a live topic throughout the year. Private schools of all types were opening on every hand in Atlanta, a large percentage of which advertised in the daily press. The following ads are typical:

MALE AND FEMALE SCHOOL

MY SCHOOL will be resumed on Monday, 8th January, 1866, in the place formerly occupied, on Garnett between Whitehall and Pryor streets. The school will be taught as heretofor, morning and evening.

The course of instruction will be thorough and complete, embracing the branches usually taught in our colleges. The government of the school will be kind, uniform and decided.

A competent Instructress will superintend the Female Department.

Tuition per month, $5 in advance. For further information, apply at office of Dr. E. J. Roach, corner Whitehall and Peters streets.

W. M. BRAY.[31]

ATLANTA FEMALE INSTITUTE

MRS. V. F. BESSENT will open a Female High School on Monday, 8th January. She will be assisted by other competent Teachers.

All branches of English Literature, French and Latin will be taught. Special attention will be paid to the Primary Department.

That much neglected branch of education, the manners, will also receive a due share of attention. Politeness and refinement is expected to characterize the intercourse of the pupils. Nor must their physical education be neglected, but they shall be required to take proper amount of exercise. For this purpose battle-dores, graces, and other innocent games will be furnished, and every effort be made to make the school room pleasant as well as profitable. Tuition, $5 per month in advance. Music $5 per month in advance.[32]

By the end of 1866 Atlanta could boast a total of twenty-two schools, but no free public school system.[33]

It will be remembered that in 1858 Governor Brown had urged the establishment of a system of common schools to be financed by the issuance of new bonds as the standing debt was paid off. While the Legislature did not act upon this proposal, it did increase the Poor School Fund by $100,000. Then the war intervened and the subject of free schools was eclipsed by more urgent matters.[34]

On December 12, 1866, Governor Jenkins signed a bill just passed by the Legislature entitled, "An Act to provide for Education, and to establish a general system of Georgia Schools." It provided for a common school system, with a state superintendent appointed by the Governor, a commissioner for each county appointed by the grand jury, and three trustees in each district of the county, elected by the qualified voters in the district. Free instruction in the Georgia schools was offered to "any free white inhabitant being a citizen of the United States and of this state, and residing within the limits of any county or school district organized under this Act, between the ages of 16 and 21 years, and any disabled and indigent soldier of this state under 30 years of age." Such public schools were to be supported by a county tax levied by the Inferior Court at a percent on the state tax, added to the share each county would receive from the state educational fund. The last section of the Education Bill contained the important proviso, "this act shall have no force nor effect until after the first of January, 1868."[35]

Postponement for a year was decided upon because the people of the state had not sufficiently recovered from the poverty caused by the war to enable them to bear extra taxes for education. Unfortunately, before the date set for the plan to take effect, a new revolution was brought upon Georgia by the reconstruction measures of 1867. Consequently no general system of education in Georgia was established until 1873, and then by the plan of the reconstruction legislature of 1870.[36]

In Atlanta, however, definite steps in the direction of free public schools were taken in 1869, which will be reviewed in the chapter covering that year.

By early 1866 the four railroads serving Atlanta were all rolling again and doing fairly well from the standpoint of earnings, though they had not yet reached 1860 levels of prosperity.

The Macon and Western, between Atlanta and Macon, was comparatively little damaged by the invading armies. While its track was torn up for twenty-odd miles, it suffered no great loss in rolling stock, and was able to declare an 8 per cent dividend on its earnings for 1865.[37]

The Georgia Railroad by March, 1866, had a surplus, but not enough to warrant paying a dividend. While its cotton traffic had decreased to about half of what it had been in 1860, that loss was partly made up by an immense amount of traveling just after the war with the return of refugees.[38]

The Atlanta and West Point was able to pay a 4 per cent dividend in 1866, half its pre-war rate. Net earnings in 1865-66 came to $54,628, as compared with $207,118 in 1860-61.[39]

The Western and Atlantic had been hardest hit of all by the war. In his inaugural address, late in 1865, Governor Jenkins commented:

> "The Western and Atlantic R. R. has been restored to the State authorities in a dilapidated condition; its track and bridges hastily and insufficiently repaired for temporary use; many of the buildings appurtenant to it, and especially to its successful operation, destroyed, and the rolling stock reduced far below the exigencies of the service."[40]

Roadmaster Martin H. Dooly in a report to Superintendent Campbell Wallace, on October 1, 1866, said:

> "When the road was received back from the U. S. Military R. R., that portion of the track between Chattanooga and the crossing of the East Tennessee & Georgia R. R., a distance of eight miles, was entirely destroyed. Between Dalton and Resaca, a distance of 15 miles, the track was laid on original ties and worn out T-rail, and was not safe for the passage of trains. From Etowah to Atlanta, 45 miles, the track had been relaid with burnt rails on inferior cross-ties, often pine and poplar poles."[41]

The Master of Transportation added his bit:

> "The locomotives delivered by the U. S. M. R. R. were all in very bad condition. Those in shop for repairs had all been seriously injured by burning and otherwise during the war, and required repairs almost to rebuilding before they could again be put in service."[42]

In addition to all of this there remained of rolling stock only 8 passenger and baggage cars and 351 freight cars. Of depots, those at Atlanta, Marietta, Acworth, Etowah, Cartersville, Tilton, Tunnel Hill and Chickamauga had all been destroyed.[43]

Even so, under the efficient management of Major Campbell Wallace, Atlanta's battered pioneer railroad was again giving service.

The idea for, if not the actuality of, a street railway system for Atlanta was born in 1866. On February 23rd an Act of the Legislature was approved whereby George Hillyer, James L. Grant, B. D. Smith, J. B. Campbell, Eben Hillyer, John G. Westmoreland, J. J. Thrasher, J. J. Morrison, W. B. Cox, I. E. Bartlett, William Solomon, and W. R. Webster were declared a body politic and corporate as the Atlanta Street Railroad Company.[44]

Later in the year the incorporators applied for and received from the Mayor and Council of Atlanta a franchise to construct street railway tracks on certain streets. However, the franchise contained so many burdensome restrictions in the way of paving requirements and otherwise that the company was unable to proceed under it, and the population of Atlanta continued to walk.[45]

Among the numerous casualties resulting from Sherman's late visit to the city was the plant of the Atlanta Gas Light Company. Consequently, since the middle of November, 1864, Atlanta had had to depend largely upon moonlight for street illumination and kerosene lamps for interior lighting. In September, 1866, the Company, through its president, John W. Duncan, notified City Council that it was ready to resume operations, and on the 15th Atlanta again had gas lights.[46] S. P. Richards duly noted the event in his diary on Saturday, September 15th:

"The city is partially lighted up tonight with gas for the first time in several years."

Another war casualty had been Atlanta's original Board of Trade, organized in 1860. During the war years it had been permitted to become extinct, but in the spring of 1866, with business rapidly reviving, a movement for its reorganization was developed. The movement resulted first in a meeting, held April 4th over the confectionery of George W. Jack on the east side of Whitehall Street between Alabama and Hunter, at which a large number of merchants were present. Robert M. Clarke was made chairman of the meeting and Josiah S. Peterson secretary. B. F. Moore offered the following preamble and resolution:

"WHEREAS, The great and constantly increasing commerce of the city of Atlanta, in the opinion of this meeting, requires the organization of a board of trade for the purpose of establishing uniformity of action in the promotion of its mercantile interests, therefore,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to draw up a code of regulations for the government of such a body, and submit the same to an adjourned meeting to be held at this place on the 11th inst., at four P.M."

The committee consisted of B. F. Moore, R. J. Lowry, A. K. Seago, Clinton I. Brown and R. M. McPherson.[47]

At the adjourned meeting, April 11th, a constitution for the Board of Trade was adopted, and the names of the following individuals and firms were enrolled: R. M. Clarke, R. J. Lowry & Co., J. M. Ball, C. I. Brown, P. P. Pease & Co., Garrett & Bro., R. M. McPherson, Langston, Crane & Co., Clarke & Hester, George W. Parrott, Morrison, Nalle & Hanson, Pratte, Edwards & Co., J. L. & G. A. Zachry, Orme & Farrar, A. K. Seago, M. R. Bell & Co., Meader & Bro., and J. S. Peterson.[48]

On the next day 49 additional names were secured as members, and an organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, W. W. Clayton; Vice-Presidents, J. M. Ball, W. M. Lowry, R. M. McPherson and Joseph Winship; Secretary, J. S. Peterson, and Treasurer, Perino Brown. President William W. Clayton was senior partner of the general commission firm of Clayton and Adair, composed of himself and A. D. Adair.[49]

Atlanta's revived Board of Trade was served by two presidents, Clayton, 1866-67, and W. M. Lowry, 1867-1871, in which latter year it was reorganized as the Chamber of Commerce.[50]

Heavy industry in Atlanta was revived by the incorporation, on March 9, 1866, of the Atlanta Mining and Rolling Mill Company, with John D. Gray, Allen Kennedy, Aaron Alexander, and William C. Gray as incorporators. Authorized capital stock of the company was $200,000, with the privilege of increasing it to $500,000.[51]

Atlanta's original rolling mill, that of Scofield and Markham, on the Georgia Railroad, had been destroyed in 1864. The new firm, soon to become known as the Atlanta Rolling Mill Company, chose a site on the Western & Atlantic Railroad, just off Marietta Street opposite Corput Street, and began operations the year of its incorporation. It specialized in the manufacture of railroad iron, fishplates, bolts, spikes and merchant bar iron. The business failed in 1877 and went into receivership. The receiver conducted the business about a year, when the property was sold and a new start was made. The result was another failure and another receiver in the person of Grant Wilkins. He carried on for a few years until an accidental fire wrote "finis" to the enterprise. During the late 1880's the property was purchased by the Richmond and Danville and Georgia Pacific Railroad companies,[52] predecessors of the Southern Railway, and has been used for railroad purposes since that time as the "North Avenue Yards."

The establishment of the Atlanta Rolling Mill in 1866, in what was then a fairly remote and relatively undeveloped section of the city, had a salutary effect on the locality. With no public transportation available it became necessary for the mill operatives to live nearby. Consequently new streets were opened, particularly to the west of the mill, and a neighborhood of modest homes developed. Two of the streets, Gray and Kennedy, bear the names of original incorporators of the enterprise.[53] For some years past the neighborhood has been predominantly Negro.

Another evidence of Atlanta's business revival in the immediate post-war period was the commissioning by the United States government, in the fall of 1865, of the Georgia National Bank, with a capital stock of $100,000, divided into 1,000 shares, a majority of which was held by its president, John Rice. This, Atlanta's second national bank, set up shop on Alabama Street next door to its first, the Atlanta National.[54]

The *Weekly Intelligencer* for April 4, 1866, heralded the new bank with a front page story, under the heading,

"The Atlanta 'Georgia National Bank'

"We noticed some time ago that an Institution bearing this name had been established in this city with, at the time, temporary headquarters only. We are gratified now at being able to announce that, with its name, it has now a 'local habitation,' with all the appliances attached, to constitute it a banking establishment in the financial and commercial sense of that term. Our business men, and all who visit this city for the transaction of business pertaining to financial matters connected with the sale or purchase of exchange, or other fiscal transactions will find the 'GEORGIA NATIONAL BANK,' located on Alabama Street, in what is termed 'BANK BLOCK.'[55] Here in a neat structure, through which we were conducted by its courteous Cashier, its officers are prepared now to do business. Within the structure we noticed a 'strong vault,' and fireproof safes, through which thieves cannot break into and steal, nor fire destroy, while its other arrangements—the 'Bank Parlor' and office room, present an elegant and attractive appearance.

"We congratulate the gentlemen whose capital is invested in this Institution located in 'Bank Block.' It is one of the best business locations in our city. . . . Of the President of the institution, Mr. John Rice, and its Cashier, Mr. E. L. Jones, we have already written. They come to Atlanta to share the fortunes of our city and citizens; but they do not come unknown; with the capital they bring, they bring also what is worth more, honorable reputations and characters as business men that would anywhere bring confidence. Their references comprise the most eminent banking houses in New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans and other cities, while in Georgia they stand endorsed among other of her best men, by her own great son, Alexander H. Stephens. Four out of five of the directors of this institution are citizens of Atlanta, deeply interested in all that concerns her advancement and prosperity. These are W. W. Clayton, E. E. Rawson, S. A. Durand, and John Collier, not one of whom is without the confidence of our citizens. It has too the confidence of the Government, for it has been made the 'United States Depository and Fiscal Agent in Atlanta.'

"We commend this Institution to the confidence of our people. As a depository, and as a fiscal agent; in the purchase of exchange, in negotiating loans, making collections of debts in this and other States; it is what Atlanta has needed and what she has now got. Our business men we trust will profit by it."

Stock of the Georgia National remained largely in the hands of the original holders until 1870, when H. I. Kimball, about whom more later, acquired 800 shares. The bank was the depository of the State of Georgia during Governor Bullock's administration (1868-71). Shortly thereafter, in February, 1872, a suit was brought against the bank to recover the money which, it was claimed, belonged to the State and was unlawfully held. As a consequence of this litigation, which went all the way to the United States Supreme Court, the Georgia National was forced to suspend operations in 1877 and it never resumed business.[56]

Another business, launched with considerably less fanfare in 1866 than that accorded the Georgia National Bank, was the Beck & Gregg Hardware Company, though it has exhibited much better lasting qualities. This pioneer hardware firm was originally composed of Vincent R. Tommey, Joseph S. Stewart and Gustavus J. Orr, all lately of Newton County, Georgia. The initial capital of $2,500 was provided by the sale of some cotton Mr. Tommey was able to salvage from the wreck of war, plus such credit as he was able to establish in New York. A small wooden building, comprising 2,500 feet of floor space, equal to the capital of the firm, was secured. Here, on the east side of Whitehall between Hunter and Mitchell streets, at the sign of the Mill Saw and Game Cock, obligated to pay $6,000 rent for the first year, the firm of Tommey and Stewart opened shop on January 1st.[57]

By 1869 the two men, whose names the firm still bears, Lewis H. Beck and William A. Gregg, had entered the employ of the company, Beck in 1866 as a utility boy and Gregg in 1869 as bookkeeper. Mr. Orr had withdrawn in September, 1866, to resume his former post as mathematics professor at Emory College at Oxford. In 1878 the Messrs. Tommey and Stewart retired and sold their interests to Messrs. Beck and Gregg. Whereupon the firm name first became Beck and Gregg.

Another Newton County boy, the late William A. Parker, Sr., of the crossroads still known as Brick Store, entered the firm in 1879 as office boy, but soon became bookkeeper. In 1883, when business or mercantile corporations were practically unknown, Beck & Gregg attracted wide attention and acquired commanding recognition when it applied for and received a charter as the Beck & Gregg Hardware Company, with a capital stock of $85,000, together with permission to expand to $250,000. At this time Beck was president, William M. Crumley, vice-president, and Gregg, secretary-treasurer.[58]

Through good times and bad Beck & Gregg forged ahead under the successive presidencies of Mr. Beck, Mr. Parker, Sr., Mr. Beck again for a short time, and, since 1925, under its present head, William A. Parker, Jr. As the business has grown, so has its quarters. Its original frame home on Whitehall Street gave way, in 1872, to a new building at Pryor and Decatur streets, in what was known as the Republic Block. From here the firm moved, in 1898, to a building built specially for it at 64 to 70 Marietta Street by the owner of the property, Dr. Abner W. Calhoun. Finally, in 1941, the spacious new quarters at the intersection of Luckie, Harris and Hayden streets were occupied, wherein Mr. Parker and his associates carry on, with faces to the future, but not unmindful of the accomplishments of their predecessors.[59]

Many basic hardware needs have remained unchanged through the years. Yet the present staff of Beck & Gregg would be hard put to locate some of the items offered by Tommey & Stewart in 1867 through a full page city directory advertisement:

VINCENT R. TOMMEY JOSEPH S. STEWART

TOMMEY & STEWART

Agents for Wright's Patent Iron Screw } Importers of and Dealers in { Agents for Hook's Anti-Friction Metal

HARDWARE

CONSISTING IN PART OF

Iron, Steel, Nails
Castings, Chains, Hoes
Axes, Hatchets
Carpenters'
Blacksmiths', Tanners'
And Shoe Makers' Tools

Shovels, Spades, Manure
Hay and Spading Forks
Rakes, Buckets, Tubs
Hubs, Rims, Spokes
Axles, Springs, Files
Harness, Hardware

Bridles, Collars, Patent and Enameled Leather and Cloth

TABLE AND POCKET CUTLERY
LOCKS, HINGES, SCREWS

Leather, Lime and Cotton Yarns

AT THE SIGN OF THE MILL SAW AND GAME COCK

Whitehall Street

ATLANTA - - - GEORGIA

Also, Agents for Baugh's Raw Bone Super-Phosphate of Lime, and for Brooks' Patent Iron Screw for pressing Cotton and Hay.[60]

All of Atlanta's hotel buildings, with the exception of the three-story brick, dating from 1853, and utilized successively as the Fulton House and the Planter's Hotel before the war, at the southeast corner of Alabama and Pryor

Streets, had been destroyed in the burning of the city by the Federals. This building survived because it had been pressed into service by both armies as a hospital. In late 1865 or early 1866 it reverted to its original purpose, this time as the American Hotel. A new Planter's Hotel opened about the same time across the street on the southwest corner.[61]

In the fall of 1866, Miss Elizabeth H. Hanna, later a well-known Atlanta teacher, made her first visit to the city. She described her stay at the American:

> "We turned our steps [from the car-shed] to a two-story building[62] with a sub-basement, and which stood on the corner of Alabama and Pryor Streets, where in later years Block's candy factory was built.
>
> "It is a far cry from this little hostelry to Atlanta's modern hotels [she was writing in 1930], which now offer the last word in hotel architecture, service and equipment, furnishing every known luxury and convenience to the traveling public. Then we were glad to get a quiet room, clean towels, soap and water and a comfortable bed for the night. The dining room was in the basement, and though summer had gone, flies had not. Swinging rhythmically above each table was an improvised flybrush, kept in motion by a long cord manipulated by a little Negro boy. In the middle of each table was a revolving disc-like arrangement, its surface broad enough to carry salt and pepper, butter, cheese, preserves and such condiments as an exacting taste might require; all of which were in due time presented to each guest in turn. This was certainly a very ingenious way of meeting the new conditions imposed by emancipation, and the consequent lack of proper service. Upon my return to Atlanta in 1874 these crude expedients had disappeared."[63]

By the time of Miss Hanna's visit the American Hotel had lots of competition. Many of Atlanta's newly opened postwar hostelries were advertising in the daily papers of which the following two ads are typical:

NATIONAL HOTEL

Corner Whitehall Street and Western & Atlantic Railroad

Atlanta, ... Georgia

This Newly-Erected, Commodious,

FIRST CLASS HOTEL,

Elegantly furnished throughout, and complete in all its appointments, will be thrown open for the reception of guests,

Monday Evening, May 21st, 1866.

Attached to the Hotel is a fine Billiard Parlor with Phelan Tables. A first class Bar, fully and completely stocked with choice liquors, Wines and Cigars.

The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.

PRATT, POND & COREY,
Proprietors.

H. D. HARRIS, Clerk,
Late of the "Brown House," Macon Georgia.[64]

The National, which occupied the present site of the Peachtree Arcade, was Atlanta's leading hotel until the erection of the first Kimball House a few years later, by which it was eclipsed but by no means put out of business.

Another new hotel of the period resorted to poetry in an effort to lure guests:

NEW HOTEL

The Calhoun House,
Opposite the Georgia Depot,
Atlanta, ... Georgia.

THIS FINE BUILDING, erected by the Hon. James M. Calhoun, of this city, has been adapted to Hotel purposes by the undersigned. An efficient corps of Clerks and Servants have been engaged. Every department properly represented; and

Here the traveler, worn and weary,
Toiling on his tedious way,
Forgets his ills—he's made so cheery,
Finding SUCH a place to stay.

And heartily exclaims:

As I have traveled life's dull round,
Where e'er its stages may have been,
I sigh to find how oft I've found
My warmest welcome at an inn.

GEO. B. WELSH.

Connected with Southern Hotels for thirty years last past.[65]

The town of Stone Mountain, which had suffered heavily at the hands of Federal raiding parties, was coming to life again by 1866, as indicated by the following announcement:

NEW GEORGIA RAILROAD
EATING HOUSE

At Stone Mountain

BLUE FRONT

The undersigned, proprietors of this New EATING HOUSE, take pleasure in notifying the traveling public, by railroad or otherwise, that it is now open for their accommodation. The best the country affords will always be on their table, and served up in the best style. A first-rate cook, and attentive servants are employed. The traveling public are invited to call and judge for themselves.

PLEASURE PARTIES to the "Stone Mountain" will be accommodated at short notice with lunch or meals, and a hall provided them for the "dance", should they desire to indulge in it.

The undersigned, determined to please, only ask for a trial.

Don't forget the HOUSE with the BLUE FRONT!

M. D. LEE & Co., Proprietors.[66]

Two new publications were made available to the reading public of Atlanta during 1866. The *Daily Commercial Bulletin,* J. J. Toon, proprietor, first appeared on March 22nd, while the *Ladies' Home,* a literary journal, commenced in May with Dr. Thomas S. Powell as proprietor.[67] The latter journalistic enterprise, later in the same year, became one factor in a schism, with Dr. Powell on one side and the Westmoreland brothers on the other, that almost wrecked the Atlanta Medical College.[68]

A most pressing problem of 1866, to which the mayor, council and citizens gave their active attention was that of relief. Hundreds of indigent people were attracted to Atlanta from the surrounding country by the distribution of rations by the United States army, which, unfortunately was stopped in midwinter. Care of these practically starving people was, therefore, left to the city, at a time when the city found it extremely difficult to take care of ordinary demands.[69]

Accordingly the mayor and council pocketed their pride and solicited more fortunate cities, particularly in the midwest, for help. Louisville, Kentucky responded with a credit of $2500, which was immediately turned into food and shipped to Atlanta. St. Louis, through its city authorities, sent five or six thousand dollars. Colonel Gibson, of Decatur, Illinois, through his own efforts, assembled and brought to the city, a carload of provisions. The only declination came from Chicago, whose city council sent word that it had no legal right to appropriate funds for such a purpose. Ironically enough, that city, a few years later, needed all the help it could get, after its great fire of 1871, and Atlanta responded.[70]

Local efforts to relieve the plight of the poor were of course continued. On January 23rd the Macon and Western Railroad donated $300 for relief. During the same month the ladies of the city conducted a fair at the Masonic Hall, where a large variety of articles were exposed for sale. Proceeds, all for relief came to $1,535.90. All of the churches became actively interested in this benevolent work, and in addition to their own committees, each of the five wards had its committee. Chairmen were: First ward, Mrs. J. A. Taylor; second, Mrs. F. M. Richardson; third, Mrs. Caroline Larendon; fourth, Mrs. W. B. Cox, and fifth, Mrs. A. Leyden.[71]

It is an old truism that poverty breeds crime, and while every possible effort was being made to relieve the destitute, the Atlanta of 1866 had its share of lawlessness. Highwaymen were particularly active, as indicated by the following from the *Intelligencer* of May 9th:

"KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD

"A bold operation took place about a mile out on the Peach-Tree Road[72] on Saturday. A two-horse Government wagon had been sent to the freedmen's camp to convey rations, and was returning to the city empty. When it had reached the corporate limits, or thereabouts, two men armed with Colt's repeaters stepped from the bushes and demanded the driver to halt, at the same time presenting the pistols to his head, with the modest request that he would deliver over 'those horses.' The party having in charge the wagon being unarmed, no resistance was made, when the two highwaymen quietly unloosed the harness, mounted the horses, and galloped off in regular 'Dick Turpin' style. The transaction took place in broad daylight. No suspicion is attached to anyone in particular. The perpetrators are supposed to belong to a regular organized band of horse thieves known to be prowling around the country adjacent to this city, and doubtless a part of the same gang who committed the outrage upon the premises of Col. Benteen on Sunday night."

A month later, editor Steele, of the *Intelligencer* was moved to write an editorial under the heading

"RESPITE!

"The unpleasant duty—one which this journal has reluctantly performed for several mornings past—of laying before its readers a somewhat lengthy list of depredations upon the worldly goods of the good people of this city, does not devolve upon it this morning. It is hoped the precious scoundrels who have preyed so successfully upon this community for more than a week have departed to other parts. Neighboring cities would do well to be on the qui vive, for on every road diverging from this point the infamous wretches have doubtless taken passage, if indeed they are yet done with Atlanta. Verily, the persecutions of this sunny land are many and severe—whipped out, burnt out, and now about to be STOLE out."[73]

The respite was short. Numerous other burglaries soon took place and there was constant trouble with Negroes, particularly in the eastern part of the city, who had developed a penchant for the reckless and frequent discharge of firearms.[74] Then, on July 6th came the Bridwell murder.

Johnson W. Bridwell was born January 15, 1816, in Greenville, South Carolina, and, in early life learned the printer's trade. During the late 1840's he and his brother Zion, also a printer, came to Atlanta. Soon after the Atlanta *Intelligencer* was established, Johnson Bridwell became connected with it, and up to the time of the war served as superintendent. During the war he established a salt factory in Atlanta, that staple being in very short supply.[75]

On Friday night, July 5, 1866, Bridwell, somewhat under the influence of liquor, was in the drug store of Mead and Howell at the corner of Marietta and Whitehall Streets. While he was there Mrs. Curry, a widow some 35 years of age came in to buy some medicine. Bridwell, in a mellower mood than usual, offered to see her home. On the way out Marietta Street the couple were caught in a rainstorm and drenched, so upon arrival at Mrs. Curry's home, a shanty near Lynch's Quarry,[76] Bridwell was invited in to dry off. With Mrs. Curry, lived her older sister, Mrs. Wright, also a widow, and her son, James T. Wright, 18, a former member of Anderson's Brigade, 59th Georgia Regiment. Both of the women were dissolute characters. Young Wright was a laborer in a nearby brick yard. After everyone had retired, Bridwell continued to sit before the fire and drink. Finally, between one and four Saturday morning, Wright rose up in bed and ordered him out of the house. By this time Bridwell was in a belligerent instead of merely a mellow mood, and his answer to Wright was a threat to pull his knife. Whereupon Wright drew a pistol from the pocket of his coat which was hanging on the bedpost, and though the room was dark, took a pot shot at Bridwell. The latter fell to the floor with a groan and died almost instantly.[77]

A consultation then followed between Wright and the two women as to the disposition of the body. The services of a Negro laborer, living nearby, were secured for two dollars, who with Wright dragged the body a quarter of a mile and threw it into a small branch. Here it was found Sunday morning the 8th, minus an eye, skull fractured, arm broken and face and head mutilated.

Wright frankly admitted the crime, claiming that it was justified.[78] He was tried during the October, 1866 term of Fulton Superior Court; found guilty of voluntary manslaughter, and sentenced to twenty years at hard labor in the penitentiary.[79]

Johnson W. Bridwell lies buried under a neat tablet in Oakland Cemetery, hard by the Memorial Drive wall—a good citizen who, in an unguarded moment, got on the wrong track.

The general prevalence of lawlessness throughout the postwar Atlanta area, called for a special session of the grand jury during July, 1866. This jury, in its presentments, came up with some interesting recommendations, which serve to illustrate contemporary thinking as to penal matters:

"In the discharge of our duties we have been influenced with an eye single to the public good. For the perpetrators of crime we have asked only the full measure of the law. When unlawfulness runs riot in the land it is the duty of all good citizens to sustain law and the Administrators thereof, and aid in the prosecution of crime regardless of fear or favor. In enforcing the whipping law we would respectfully urge upon the Judge of the County Court the propriety of so modifying the sentence of the Court, as to require the penalty to be inflicted more privately. A public whipping post is more or less shocking to the finer senses of humanity. Such a spectacle is not only to benefit by its precept or deter by its example to the youth of the County; it banishes the terror of punishment and deadens the finer feelings of the breast by frequent familiarly with the penalty it instinctively breeds.

"We would recommend to the Legislature of the State an amendment to the present statute in case of Rape, so as to make it punishable with death, instead of a misdemeanor as now provided by law. There is no greater crime known to the law. Certainly none deserves a severer punishment. The sanctity of virtue demands it. Public justice and female purity demand it. It is invoked by every tremulous tone of weak and defenceless chastity. It is demanded as a shield against the unhallowed embraces of unbridled brutality."

JULIUS A. HAYDEN, Foreman.[80]

The regular grand jury for the first week of the October term added its bit:

". . . Owing to the limited number of hands liable to road duty, we find the roads in the county in bad order. We would therefore recommend that the class of criminals sentenced to the chain gang, who have heretofore been sent to Milledgeville, be hereafter organized in chain gangs and put to work on our public roads. . . ."

BENJAMIN B. AMOS, Foreman.[81]

The De Kalb County Grand jury for the October, 1866 term was more sanguine as to lawlessness:

"We congratulate our fellow citizens upon the improved condition of the morals of our county, and confiding as we do in the honesty and integrity of our neighbors, we trust the day will soon come when good citizens will be protected by law in all their rights and privileges and bad men punished for their misdeeds. . . . The Treasurer's books, which are neatly kept, show that he has received the sum of $14.50, and that he has paid out the same upon the proper vouchers. . . .

The Jail we find repaired with the exception of the debtors' room, but as there is no present use for that room, we do not recommend any work to be done upon it. The Court-House is now undergoing repairs. . . ."

JAMES POLK, Foreman.

John W. F. Tilly	George A. Ramspeck
Alfred S. Fowler	John R. Mahaffey
James T. Cobb	John W. Scruggs
Benjamin F. Veal	Benjamin F. Chapman
Augustus L. Pitts	John C. Ragsdale
Garrett L. Morris	John J. Whitlow
Thomas N. Paden	Eli J. Hulsey
William G. Ham	David Chestnut
Henry P. Wooten	Ezekiel A. Davis
John W. Fowler, Sr.	Charles W. McGinnis
John G. McWilliams	Josiah J. Willard.[82]

In 1866 the City of Atlanta confirmed the sale, to ex-Governor Joseph E. Brown, of the site of its second jail, or calaboose, at the southeast intersection of Broad Street and the railroad tracks. It therefore became necessary to secure a new jail site. For this purpose an old warehouse building, situated near the center of the block now bounded by Pryor, Exchange Place, Ivy and Decatur streets was selected. This, Atlanta's third jail, was constructed of stone from Lynch's Quarry. The walls were unusually thick, and the building was heated by an egg-shaped cast iron stove. Such were the quarters provided for the city's non-paying guests for the next few years.[83]

By the end of 1866, the State of Georgia faced a crisis insofar as convicts were concerned. What with thousands of ex-slaves and a great influx of adventurers and criminals from other sections, plus a practically empty treasury, the State simply could not afford a penal system even approaching adequacy. It was therefore determined to lease the convicts to individuals and corporations, thereby relieving the State of their support and maintenance. Suitable legislation was passed by the General Assembly in December, 1866, being an act "to regulate the manner in which the Penitentiary shall be managed, and to provide for farming out the same." The act provided that "the Governor shall cause to be advertised, for sixty days, in two or more newspapers in the State of Georgia, for proposals to farm out the Penitentiary; and the same shall be farmed out to such persons as shall take it on the best terms, and give such bond as the Governor may require to secure the comfort and security of the prisoners." No lease was to be made for longer than five years.[84]

No convict labor was leased, however, until May 11, 1868, at which time General Thomas H. Ruger, Provisional Governor of Georgia, agreed to furnish William A. Fort of Rome, Georgia, with 100 able-bodied Negro convicts to work on the Georgia and Alabama Railroad for one year in return for the sum of $2500.[85]

The Atlanta railroad-building firm of Grant, Alexander and Company, composed of John T. and William D. Grant and Thomas and Henry S. Alexander, leased the entire penitentiary on June 28, 1869. The company agreed to take all convicts sentenced to the penitentiary and to relieve the state of all expenses of their care except the salary of the Principal Keeper of the Penitentiary, who was to be allowed to inspect the convicts at all times. The company promised to treat the convicts humanely and not to overwork them, a promise it kept reasonably well. The state received no money for the labor of those convicts but was relieved of the expense of supporting them. By January 1, 1870, the company had 393 convicts in its possession.[86]

Subsequent contracts with Grant, Alexander and Company, and with other firms throughout the state, provided for payment to the state of an annual per capita per convict, the sum generally ranging from ten to twenty dollars. By 1875 there were 926 convicts in the Georgia penitentiary. Ninety were white males, 805 were colored males, 30 were colored females and one was a white female. During that year the state received a total of $10,756.48 for the labor of her convicts. Thus, instead of a liability, the penitentiary had become a source of income to the state.[87]

The principal Atlanta firms, other than Grant, Alexander and Company, to participate in the leasing system at various times during its life of 40 years, were the Chattahoochee Brick Company and the Dade Coal Company. The former company, still in operation at Chattahoochee in Fulton County, was originally headed by B. G. Lockett. Later, and for many years the firm was composed of Captain James W. English, his son, James W., Jr., George W. Parrott, and William B. Lowe. The Dade Coal Company, with offices in Atlanta, and mines on Raccoon Mountain in Dade County, was headed by ex-Governor Joseph E. Brown.[88]

The convict leasing system, for some years at least, served a useful purpose, and was certainly a boon to the state treasury. It helped to build railroads, mine coal, make brick, saw lumber and farm land at a time when these operations were sorely needed in the reconstruction of the State. It also put a class of men to useful endeavor, who, before arrest and conviction for crime, were a millstone around the neck of the community.

But, human nature being what it is, the system had serious defects, and, like the Ku Klux Klan, long outlived its usefulness. Attempts to abolish the system and turn the convicts back to the exclusive control of the state began as early as 1876. On December 1, 1886, Governor John B. Gordon, in a message to the General Assembly, summed up the evils of the convict leasing system pretty well when he said:

> "It places pecuniary interests in conflict with humanity. It makes possible the infliction of greater punishment than the law and the courts have imposed. It renders impracticable the proper care by the State of the health of its prisoners or their requisite separation according to classes, sexes and conditions. It reduces to minimum the chances for reformation. It places convict labor, in many instances, in direct competition with the honest labor of the State."[89]

Writers, politicians and reformers continued to fulminate against the system. Finally in 1908, largely through the efforts of Senator Thomas S. Felder, of Bibb County, and a crusade by the *Atlanta Georgian*, the General Assembly, in special session, passed a bill on September 15th, ending the lease system on April 1, 1909. Hereafter convicts were to be employed on public roads and public works by county and state authorities.[90] No more would the convicted prisoner before the bar be banished to the brickyard or the coal mine. Our penal system has traveled far since 1866.

The Atlanta volunteer fire department had been temporarily disorganized by the war, its men scattered, equipment destroyed or stolen, and its first chief, William Barnes, killed in battle in 1865. By early 1866, however, it had been reorganized under Samuel B. Sherwood as chief engineer, Henry Gullatt, first assistant engineer, and W. G. Knox, second assistant engineer. Presidents of the four individual companies were, Number One, John B. Norman; Number Two, James E. Gullatt; Number Three, E. C. Murphy, and Hook and Ladder, J. L. Queen.[91]

The engine houses had all survived the destruction of the city, although that of Mechanic Fire Company No. 2, corner Washington Street and the Georgia Railroad had been used as a military prison during the Federal occupation. The equipment of the various companies did not fare so well. That of No. 1 had been taken to Chattanooga, where it was recovered. The engine belonging to No. 2 had been run off the high embankment back of the engine house by Sherman's men and destroyed. Equipment of the other companies was never located after the war. In January, 1866 the fire department reported to City Council that the sum of $13,300 would be required to replace equipment and make its services of value.[92]

Finally, in October the first steam fire engine arrived in the city, hand engines having previously been the only type used. The new engine, purchased for No. 2 from the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company at a cost of $5000, proved, on trial, to be a success. Witnessed by a large gathering, on October 15th, the engine got up enough steam in seven minutes to throw a stream of water 250 feet, using a one inch nozzle and 50 feet of hose.[93] S. P. Richards recorded in his diary on the 15th:

> "The firemen made trial of their new machine, a steamer, today and created quite an excitement. It threw a stream of water over the church steeples."

The reorganization and re-equipment of the fire department came none too soon, for 1866 was a year characterized by numerous fires. As a preventive measure, Council, in January, ordered the City Marshal to have standing walls of previously burned buildings—"Sherman's Monuments"—pulled down.[94] Then, on May 1st, the Masonic Temple on Decatur Street, which had escaped destruction by Sherman's orders, was accidentally destroyed by fire.[95] During the following month the *Intelligencer* issued an announcement and warning:

> "The cistern at the corner of Loyd and Alabama streets is now complete and ready for use. It has been enlarged to double its former size, and will certainly furnish water enough for an ordinary fire. We hope it is the purpose of the City Fathers to enlarge them all. A scarcity of water on the occasion of fires has been seriously felt more times than one."[96]

By November the fire situation had become serious. S. P. Richards recorded on the 2nd, "A fire broke out about two o'clock this morning at Roark's Corner[97] not far from our house and burnt up two apple shops and hustled Brothertons Drygoods out of doors in haste. When the steamer got to work it soon conquered the fire."

Again on the 10th:

> "This has been a week of apprehension in our city on account of the frequent fires that have occurred of late. On Tuesday morning [Nov. 6th] at one o'clock the alarm of 'Fire' was sounded, and I found a number of people gathered in front of Markham's new block just finished and mostly occupied. Smoke was issuing from the building but it was uncertain where the fire was

for over a quarter of an hour. After awhile it broke out in Mrs. Sand's fine millinery store and after a long delay the new Steamer got a stream of water to bear upon it and seemed about to conquer it. But after a few minutes play the water was exhausted and the flames again made rapid headway until the whole block of six stores was swept away. The same night at 9 o'clock a new and nearly finished house on Pryor St. was burned. We have employed a watchman to take care of Alabama Street on the part of it in connection with our store. That is, we shall pay our prorata share of it."

Indeed, on November 7th, Council, suspecting incendiarism, offered $1000 reward for arrest of incendiaries, and the police were authorized to halt all persons on all streets after 11 o'clock at night. A special meeting was called by the Mayor and extra policemen were employed.[98] Before long the fire situation was much improved.

While the people of Atlanta had much of a serious nature to occupy their attention during the immediate postwar years, there was also a lighter side.

In the dark days of '65, actor William H. Crisp had played Shakespeare in Atlanta, notably "a very wild Macbeth."[99] Soon thereafter, in January, 1866, the following announcement appeared in the *Intelligencer*:[100]

THEATRE

Corner Broad and Walton Sts.

PRATT & CARNEY'S DRAMATIC COMPANY

Will

Open in Atlanta Thursday, Jan. 18th

WITH A SUPERB COMPANY, selected from the principal Theaters of the South. Will present to the public Brilliant and Sparkling Comedies, Farces, Singing and Dancing, New Scenery and Costumes. Will open with the Beautiful Drama, entitled

THE MISER; OR, A WOMAN'S LOVE

Characters by Company

A FAVORITE BALLAD . . . . By Maj. James Collins
DANCE . . . . By MISS KATE WOODS

To conclude with the Amusing and Laughable Farce of

LOAN OF A LOVER

Doors open at 7¼ o'clock. Performances to commence at 7½ o'clock.
Admission $1

It was about this time that two auditoriums or assembly halls were erected. First was the large brick building put up by Larkin H. Davis on his property fronting the west side of Broad Street exactly midway the block between Hunter and Mitchell streets. The hall ran back to the rear of Mr. Davis' residence, which fronted on Forsyth.[101] Davis Hall, as the building came to be known, was provided with long pine benches with back rests which served as seats, while around the walls were numerous kerosene lamps later changed to gas, mounted against tin reflectors. There was a fully equipped stage with kerosene footlights, with dressing rooms in the rear. The building served both as a theater and assembly room. During the fiery days of reconstruction its rafters rung with much vociferous oratory.[102]

Davis Hall soon had a rival in the Bell-Johnson Opera Hall, erected in 1866 by Marcus A. Bell and George Johnson at the northeast corner of Alabama and Broad streets. The building was a three-story brick, the hall being located on the third floor over the Post Office and a saloon, restaurant and barber shop operated by Mr. Johnson.[103]

It was in the Bell-Johnson Opera Hall that the Concordia Association, composed of German Jews in Atlanta, and organized in June, 1866, displayed to large audiences their dramatic talents in both comedy and melodrama. Their offerings included such plays as "She Stoops to Conquer", "Ten Nights in a Barroom", and "Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works". The Concordia was the first regularly organized theater guild in Atlanta.[104]

The Fourth of July, 1866, insofar as S. P. Richards was concerned, was something of a dud. His diary entry for the day follows:

"Wed. 4th. Our people have not celebrated this day much not realizing to any great extent the blessings of Independence 'not just at this time' as Bill Arp says. The military fired 36 guns at noon and some of the firemen had a turnout, and a Colored Society styled 'Benevolent Golden Rod' had a procession and a feast. Several fracases occurred between the soldiers and the negroes and one spunky sergeant did actually knock a Major off his horse with his musket!"

Included on the entertainment calendar for 1866, was the first Italian opera ever to perform in the city. Its performances were held in October. Mr. Richards duly recorded the event under date of October 20th:

"An Italian Opera is in operation in our city now and there is quite an opera fever prevailing here. But the two dollars each stands in the way of our attendance. Strakosch is the proprietor of the concern."[105]

A month later, Mr. Richards' diary informs us that in 1866 as now there existed a servant problem:

"Sat. Nov. 17. We have another servant on trial, named Louisa, being the fifth since we began to keep house about a year ago. Docia—Augusta—Caroline—Margaret and Louisa—They 'endure for a time' only, and soon spoil and pass away."

Nearly thirty years after its first introduction at Cooperstown, New York, baseball came to Atlanta in the spring of 1866.

To Captain Tom Burnett, proprietor of the Ice House on Wall Street, goes credit for introducing "the great American game" to the local populace, by his organization of "The Atlanta Baseball Club." A suitable site for a diamond was selected on Hunter Street a short distance west of the cemetery, and while the players were as green as the grass upon which they played, hundreds of enthusiasts went out three afternoons a week to see their husbands, friends and sweethearts swing the willow stick (bat); blister their hands catching the ball (no gloves or mitts), and wear themselves out running the bases.[106]

After a few weeks' practice, Captain Burnett declared himself head of the finest team in the world, and ready to meet any opponents. Composing the team were Captain Burnett, "Coach" Alexander, Edgar Thompson, Joe Ormond, Smith and Robert Solomon, Sonny Wright, Tiff Mead, Joe Bridges, and Hayne Ellis. Their uniforms consisted of white caps, white flannel shirts, and black broadcloth trousers, the tops of which were encircled with a wide white glazed leather belt trimmed in red.[107]

It is said that people gazed in mute astonishment at these wonderful players; would yell themselves hoarse when by accident the catcher would take a foul on the bounce, and would become crazy with delight when some nervous fielder would grab up the ball, as if he were digging turnips. Many accidents occurred and players were carried off the diamond on stretchers by their comrades. But they played on and the wonder grew.

Finally, to make things really exciting, a rival team appeared on the horizon. This was the "Gate City" Nine, captained by Robert Dohme, later a well-known Atlanta grocer. Lineup of the new team was: Robert Dohme, shortstop; James Gregg, pitcher; George Cassin, catcher; John Collier, 1st base; Willis Biggers, 2nd base; Tom Johnson, 3rd base; Bill Judson, left field; Dick Williford, center field; Bill Sparks, right field. Their accouterments were even more colorful than the Atlanta's, and consisted of light blue knee-length breeches, with crimson stripe down the sides, orange shirt and highly glazed black military caps.[108]

After a few weeks of intensive practice, they challenged the "Atlanta Ball Club," which challenge was promptly accepted. From then until May 12th, the day of the great conflict, little else was discussed. The game was scheduled for two o'clock in the afternoon, but by ten in the morning, crowds began to wend their way out Hunter Street to the Ball Park. Most walked, while others, including some of the wealth, fashion and beauty of the town drove out in carriages. Being purely a local amateur affair, there was no admission fee. Neither were there grandstand, peanuts, popcorn or cold drinks. But there was plenty of expectation and enthusiasm.

The players of both teams occupied chairs, while the umpire, Samuel T. Downs, erstwhile proprietor of the Cabinet Saloon on Alabama Street, sat in a huge arm chair. Mr. Downs, be it said, made a most acceptable umpire. He never lost his temper and had the respect and confidence of both teams.

Promptly at two o'clock the opposing teams marched onto the diamond behind a brass band, and, amid the cheers of the spectators came the cry of "Play Ball!" from umpire Downs. And play they did—until 6:30 P.M. Pitching had not developed into the science it is today. In 1866 the ball was simply tossed out with careless grace. It is not surprising therefore, that some 25 runs were scored in the first inning. Often the balls were knocked out into the vehicles of the onlookers, creating great excitemenet. Third baseman Tom Johnson of the Gate City's scored the longest hit of the game. The ball, in fact, was not found until two weeks later. Upon measuring the distance it was found to have gone a quarter of a mile—presumably down hill. Great excitement was occasioned when a fast ball hit Captain Dohme in the abdomen. Turning deathly pale, he fell face down on the greensward. Ladies screamed and fainted away and little children cried. However the fallen player was soon revived and the game continued.[109]

The final score, as announced by Umpire Downs was 127 to 29 in favor of the Gate City Club. Justly proud of this accomplishment, they had the ball with which they had played gilded and lettered in black with the club name and date of the victory. It was then placed in Dr. Taylor's Drug Store window at Peachtree and Decatur streets, where crowds came to look upon the trophy as though it were some great man lying in state.[110]

Shortly after their resounding defeat, the Atlanta Club disbanded, but not so the Gate City's. On the strength of their success, clubs sprang up all over the southeast,—Griffin, Macon, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Athens and other cities formed clubs. Wherever the Gate City Club played, it was wined and dined. Indeed, during the summer of 1866 it won 36 competitive games, losing only once. The lone defeat was administered by the Dixie Club of Athens, a group made up of college boys, among whom were Washington DeSaussure and Tinsley Rucker.[111] From the interest engendered by amateur baseball in the Atlanta of 1866, grew the local support accorded professional efforts in later years.

The Masons of Atlanta, soon after the destruction by fire of their Temple on Decatur Street, May 1, 1866, organized a Masonic Hall Company for the purpose of building a new Temple. The lot now occcupied by the Palmer Building, northeast corner of Marietta and Forsyth streets was purchased, and a contract for the erection of a building was let to the firm of Healey and Berry, who commenced work on August 28, 1866.[112]

Less than a month later, exercises were held in connection with laying the corner stone and were duly recorded by S. P. Richards:

> "Tuesday, Sept. 25—At 9½ o'clock this morning the singers for the Corner Stone Celebration met at the building site and many ladies also assembled there. The day was clear and the sun shone warm upon the unsheltered assembly, who had to wait an hour before the Mason's procession arrived to proceed with the ceremonies. Our odes were sung and went off well. The Stone was laid and many articles were deposited therein—shut out from the light of day for ages—it may be. As usual the stand gave way and made a commotion, but did no damage."

Healey and Berry completed the building on September 18, 1867, at which time the firm was paid $3,571.10 on a total bill of $9,144.76. After a great deal of discussion suit was filed against the Masonic Hall Company, to foreclose a lien for the balance due. Suit was also brought by John T. Meador and Lewis Tumlin for stone, in the amount of $2,590.40.[113]

President W. W. Boyd, of the Masonic Hall Company, being unable to raise the necessary sum of $8,164.06, the property was sold by the Sheriff on October 5, 1869, to Laurent DeGive for $21,000. He promptly remodeled the building, and in 1870 it was opened as DeGive's Opera House. There is no record to show that any Masonic organization ever met under its roof.[114]

As DeGive's Opera House, and later as the Bijou Theater, the intended Masonic Temple had a colorful history until 1921, when it was torn down to make way for the Palmer Building. At that time the old Masonic corner stone, over which Dr. Alexander Means had made a dedicatory address 55 years before, was found.

During the years between 1866 and 1871, Masonic meetings were held successively over a store at Pryor and Decatur streets; in rooms belonging to Thomas G. Healey at Peachtree and Marietta streets, and in a hall over John

Ryan's dry goods store on the east side of Whitehall between Alabama and Hunter streets. In 1871 all the local Masonic Lodges moved to the original Grant Building, erected in 1870 by John T. and William D. Grant, at the southeast corner of Marietta and Broad streets, present site of the Atlanta Federal Savings, late 22 Marietta Building. Here the new Masonic Hall, to be occupied until 1892, was dedicated by Most Worshipful Samuel Lawrence, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, on February 22, 1871.[115]

Considerable excitement was engendered in Atlanta and North Fulton County by the following announcement in the *Daily New Era* of December 15, 1866, under the heading "Gold in Fulton County."

> "We have been shown samples of gold bearing quartz from [Land] lot Number 200 in the 17th district of this county, which, with nine others lying in the direction of the vein, has just been purchased by Mr. Ed W. Holland, Gen. A. Austell and Mr. B. Pace. These are about ten miles north of the city on Nancy's Creek and near the Chattahoochee River. The vein was traced by builders and other surface indications about two miles in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction, and pits were sunk at intervals, ten or twelve feet deep for half a mile. This developed veins from one to three feet wide, widening downward, and it was from these that the quartz shown was obtained.
>
> "Mr. Holland, who has had 30 years experience as a practical miner in Georgia,[116] reports the yield of gold in a test made by him of this rock, at about $250 per ton. He also states that a twelve-stamp mill, costing about $5000, and 12 men, can grind about 200 bushels (or about 14 tons) per day of 12 hours, the rock being within wheelbarrow distance, with little or no annoyance from water.
>
> "This is certainly an unexpected and very valuable discovery, and is but another proof of the immense value of this as a mining country. Its development has not yet begun. Our people are comparatively ignorant of the untold treasures literally lying beneath their feet."

Land Lot No. 200 is bisected roughly from east to west by Mount Paran Road. Within the confines of the lot, Randall Mill Road runs in from the south and Harris Trail runs off to the north. None of these roads existed in 1866. Not long afterward, Lot No. 200 became the property of Pinkney H. Randall, who established a grist mill on Nancy Creek just below the present Randall Mill Road bridge, crossing that stream. No one got rich from the gold discovery. Both quantity and quality were too meager to warrant extensive mining efforts. The grist mill produced more revenue than the stamping-mill.[117]

A number of pioneer and well-known citizens of the Atlanta area died in 1866. Among them were Barrington King, of Roswell, proprietor of the Roswell Cotton Mills, fatally kicked by a vicious horse in January; William Whitaker, proprietor of Atlanta's first cabinet shop and coffin factory, in June, aged 62; William W. Roark, age 56, and Dr. Hilliard L. Currier, 53, both in August. The former, a merchant, gave his name to the southwest corner of Whitehall and Mitchell streets. In after years Roark's Corner became Brotherton's corner—site of the well known mercantile establishment of the obese Captain William H. Brotherton. Dr. Currier served the city of Atlanta long and acceptably as official surveyor. He was the father of Charles E. Currier, late president of the Atlanta National Bank. Captain John F. Ezzard, first president of Tallulah Fire Company No. 3, Confederate soldier, and a son of

Judge William Ezzard, died in October at the early age of 33, while the oldest pioneer of them all, Major Stephen Terry, age 78, died in November at his homeplace, now included in the confines of Lakewood Park. With the exception of King, buried at Roswell, and Terry, in an unmarked grave near his home, all of these citizens are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[118]

The growth and recovery of Atlanta during the two critical postwar years of 1865 and 1866, is summed up in a short sketch written in late 1866 for Barnwell's Atlanta City Directory for 1867:

"Atlanta, during the year 1865, presented quite a picturesque appearance. There might have been seen small houses, put up in many instances expressly for rent, which presented the appearance of having been built of the remnants of half-a-dozen houses. Calico fences, too, still remain quite fashionable in some localities. But, it is to be hoped that the city will outgrow the effects of the war, and that at an early day her citizens may again become comfortably situated, and that good feelings, and a disposition to encourage and foster each other's interests, may be cultivated by them. Then may we hope, and expect to see education advanced, fraternity revived, christianity practiced, and society much improved and benefitted.

"Atlanta has, already, made rapid strides in the way of improvement. There were licensed by the City Council, during the last six months of the year 1865, about 338 business firms, representing various branches of trade—nearly all of whom commenced on very small capital, occupying shanties as storehouses. There was very little manufacturing done in Atlanta in 1865. Planing mills, etc., were much needed to assist in the work of rebuilding the city; among the first of such establishments put into operation was that of Hoge, Mills & Co., on Marietta Street. Others of a similar character rapidly sprang up. The several railroad companies went to work in good earnest, repairing their respective roads, and rebuilding their depots and shops, and at this time, they are all in comparatively good condition. Foundries and machine shops were established; first-class business houses took the place of the shanty substitutes which had at first been thrown up by the impoverished citizens, and large stocks of goods soon found their way into them.

"The city fathers, too, went to work with great energy. Two neat and tastily arranged market houses[119] were soon completed; the bridge across the Macon & Western and Western & Atlantic Railroads, near the site of the old market house, was rebuilt, and Broad Street opened from Alabama to Mitchell, and widened from Alabama to Peachtree Street. The City Cemetery [Oakland] received their early attention, and has been re-fenced, enlarged,[120] and otherwise improved. The streets of the city, though filled with huge heaps of rubbish less than two years ago, have been put in a fair condition. The incorporate limits have been extended so as to enclose the area of a circle three miles in diameter, the center of which is still located near the General Passenger Depot. They have also provided a place for the M. & W. R. R. Depot, at the corner of M. & W. R. R. and Mitchell Street, for which they have taken in exchange the site on which stood the old Depot, corner Railroad and Whitehall Street—making a decided improvement by this transaction. The Gas Works have also again been put into operation; and at this time the city is tolerably well lighted. The Rolling Mill, owned by Messrs. Markham and Schofield during the first years of the war, having been destroyed, has not yet been rebuilt. Another, however, on a very extensive scale, has been erected, and put into operation, on the W. & A. Railroad, near the city, under the firm name of 'Atlanta Rolling Mill & Mining Company,' by John D. Gray, A. Alexander, and others. There are also, in Atlanta, three Iron and Brass Foundries, seven Machine Shops (including those in connection with Railroads), and three large Sash, Door and Blind Manufactories, besides other and smaller manufacturing establishments.

"The printing, publishing, and, also, the educational interest of the city deserve notice. We have at this time three daily newspapers, one large weekly literary paper, one monthly Medical Journal, and one large monthly magazine; also, several large job offices, and two book binderies. All these establishments seem to be well conducted, and in a prosperous condition. The Medical College has been refitted, and will doubtless soon become eminently successful and popular. The cause of education, generally, is attracting attention. We have already several good schools, notwithstanding the absence of appropriate buildings for that purpose, and we hope some practicable system of free school education, both mental and manual, will at an early day, be established, that the poor children who are learning nothing but beggarly and vicious habits on our streets, may be taught that they were created for more noble and glorious purposes.

"The number of stores on the business streets will reach at least 250—mostly brick buildings. The assessed value of the real estate in the city in 1866, was over $7,000,000, and the amount of goods sold is estimated at $4,500,000. The population of the city, as shown by the census just taken, under direction of the City Council, is 10,940 whites, 9,288 blacks, 928 (nearly five percent of the whole number) being widows and orphans; 449 of whom are widows and orphans of Confederate soldiers—the aggregate showing a population of 20,228 souls.

"It will be seen that this city, within the past two years, has risen out of her own ashes, to the populous, mercantile, and manufacturing Atlanta of 1861 and 1862. Her future, who can forsee? The tides of immigration and of improvement still continue to flow in her favor. The two new railroads to this city, in contemplation before the war, will probably be completed at an early day. The Georgia Air Line Railroad [Southern] will, we are advised, be in running order as far as Gainesville, Hall County, within the year 1868. The grading on this road will be commenced, between this point and Gainesville, in March or April next [1867]. From the history of the past, we may, with a degree of certainty, anticipate the effects that will be produced on this city by the completion of these roads. On the railroad and manufacturing interest of Atlanta, and the mineral resources of Upper Georgia—which are now rapidly being developed—and not on agriculture (for the surrounding country is comparatively poor), must this city base her hopes of prosperity. Success attend them! and may we not again be cursed by the demoralizing and destructive tendencies of war, but continue, as a community, to march onward and upward in every ennobling cause, until Atlanta shall have become one of the great cities of the continent."[121]

While this brave prophecy was being written, the stage had been set for radical reconstruction, so soon to break full force upon the rapidly recovering City of Atlanta.

NOTES—CHAPTER 44

[1] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 259-260. Avery, *History of Georgia,* 357.

[2] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 357.

[3] *Ibid.,* 358; Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 260. John Spencer Bassett, *A Short History of the United States, 1492-1920* (New York, 1923), 606.

[4] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 357; Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 260.

[5] Commission Book, Department Archives and History, Atlanta.

[6] *Ibid.*

[7] *Ibid.;* Walter McElreath, *A Treatise on the Constitution of Georgia* (Atlanta, 1912), 782.

[8] Reed, *Atlanta,* 250; *Annual Reports,* City of Atlanta, 1899, p. 582.

[9] Reed, *Atlanta,* 250-251.

[10] *Ibid.,* 251.

[11] *Atlanta Intelligencer,* Jan. 13, 1866; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 93.

[12] *Ga. Laws,* 1866, p. 268.

[13] Reed, *Atlanta,* 252.

[14] *City Directory,* 1867, pp. 37-49; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 99.

[15] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 94.

[16] *Ibid.,* 94-96.

[17] *Ibid.,* 97.

[18] Reed, *Atlanta,* 301.

[19] *Cyclopedia of Georgia,* II, 560-561; Avery, *History of Georgia,* 715.

[20] Alberta Malone, "History of the Atlanta Ladies Memorial Association, 1866-1946," 22. Bound typescript copy on file Atlanta Historical Society.

[21] *Ibid.*

[22] Lucian Lamar Knight, *Georgia's Landmarks, Memorials and Legends* (2 vols., Atlanta, 1913) II, 753.

[23] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[24] Knight, *Landmarks, Memorials and Legends,* II, 754-755.

[25] Malone, "Ladies' Memorial Association," 12.

[26] *Ibid.,* 4.

[27] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1866, Book D.

[28] *Atlanta Weekly Intelligencer,* Aug. 15, 1866.

[29] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1866, Book D.

[30] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1866, Book D.

[31] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Jan. 7, 1866.

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] Hornady, *Atlanta,* 423.

[34] *Thompson, Reconstruction in Georgia,* 120.

[35] *Ibid.,* 121-122.

[36] *Ibid.,* 122.

[37] *Ibid.,* 106.

[38] *Ibid.,* 107.

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] Johnston, *History of the W. & A. R. R.,* 58.

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] *Ibid.,* 59.

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] *Ga. Laws,* 1866, p. 201.

[45] Wade H. Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *A.H.B.,* XIV (July, 1938), 198.

[46] *Ibid.,* 197; Reed, *Atlanta,* 251.

[47] Reed, *Atlanta,* 446; *City Directory,* 1867, p. 197.

[48] Reed, *Atlanta,* 447.

[49] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1867, p. 146.

[50] Reed, *Atlanta,* 447.

[51] *Ga. Laws* , 1866, p. 182.

[52] Reed, *Atlanta,* 458.

[53] *Hopkins' Atlas,* 1878, Plate F.

[54] Reed, *Atlanta,* 425; *City Directory,* 1867.

[55] South side of Alabama between Whitehall and Pryor.

[56] Reed, *Atlanta,* 425-426; The bank is not listed in city directories after 1877.

[57] Legare Davis, *The First Seventy-five Years, 1866-1941, Beck & Gregg Hardware Co.* (Atlanta, 1941); *Atlanta Journal,* Aug. 24, 1947.

[58] *Atlanta Journal,* Aug. 24, 1947.

[59] *Ibid.*

[60] *City Directory,* 1867, p. 248.

[61] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 126.

[62] Other accounts describe it as "three-story."

[63] Elizabeth H. Hanna, "Miss Hanna's Reminiscences," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* June 22, 1930.

[64] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* July 10, 1866.

[65] *Ibid.,* Jan. 13, 1866.

[66] *Ibid.,* Oct. 4, 1866.

[67] Feldman, "Checklist of Atlanta Newspapers," 36-37.

[68] *Cf.* Gregory Murphy, "The Controversey Between Dr. T. S. Powell and the Faculty of the Atlanta Medical College," *G.H.Q.* XXIV, 3 (Sept. 1940), 236; Calhoun, "Atlanta Medical College," *G.H.Q.* IX, 1 (Mar. 1925), 35.

[69] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 95.

[70] *Ibid.*

[71] *Ibid.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 215-216.

[72] Approximate present intersection of Peachtree and Pine streets.

[73] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* June 17, 1866.

[74] *Ibid.*

[75] "Garrett's Necrology."

[76] Present site of Davis Street plant, Georgia Power Co.

[77] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* July 9, 1866.

[78] *Ibid.*

[79] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1866, Book E.

[80] *Ibid.,* Book D.

[81] *Ibid.,* Book E.

[82] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1866, Book D.

[83] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's First Jail Break," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 11, 1934.

[84] A. Elizabeth Taylor, "The Origin and Development of the Convict Lease System in Georgia," *G.H.Q.* XXVI, 2 (June, 1942), 113.

[85] *Ibid.*

[86] *Ibid.;* Atlanta City Directories, 1870-1880.

[87] Taylor, "Origin Convict Lease System," *loc. cit.*

[88] *Ibid.;* Atlanta City Directories, 1870-1900.

[89] A. Elizabeth Taylor, "The Abolition of the Convict Lease System in Georgia," *G.H.Q.* XXVI, 3-4 (Sept., Dec., 1942), 273.

[90] *Ibid.*

[91] John M. Harrison, "The Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XXVI (Oct. 1941), 250.

[92] *Sixty Seventh Annual Report and History of the Atlanta Fire Department* (Atlanta, 1948), 50.

[93] *Ibid.;* Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen," *loc. cit.*

[94] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 96.

[95] McDonald, *Free Masonry and Its Progress in Atlanta and Fulton County,* 54.

[96] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* June 17, 1866.

[97] Southwest corner Whitehall and Mitchell streets.

[98] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 98.

[99] Meta Barker, "Some Highlights of the Old Atlanta Stage," *A.H.B.,* II (Jan. 1928), 33.

[100] Jan. 18, 1866.

[101] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "History of Fun in Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Sept. 22, 1935; James F. Cooper's Map of Atlanta, 1868; City Directories, 1870, 1871, 1872.

[102] Kurtz, "Fun in Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[103] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1867, pp. 139, 206.

[104] Kurtz, "Fun in Atlanta," *loc. cit.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 490.

[105] Barker, "Atlanta Stage," *loc. cit.,* 34.

[106] Augusta Wylie King, "Atlanta's First Ball Park and First Baseball Team, 1866," *A.H.B.,* XXXII (Dec. 1947), 12-16.

[107] *Ibid.*

[108] *Ibid.*

[109] *Ibid.*

[110] *Ibid.*

[111] *Ibid.*

[112] McDonald, *Free Masonry,* 51-52.

[113] *Ibid.,* 52.

[114] *Ibid.*

[115] *Ibid.,* 54, 106-107.

[116] Mostly in Villa Rica during the gold excitement of the 1830's and 1840's.

[117] Phillips' Map of Fulton County, 1872. Land Lot 200 of the 17th District is designated as "P. H. Randall, Gold Mine."

[118] "Garrett's Necrology."

[119] Market House No. 1, northwest corner Ivy and Line (Exchange Pl.) streets, Frank T. Ryan, Clerk. Market House No. 2, northwest corner Mitchell and Pryor streets, Theophilus Harris, Clerk.

[120] Extended North to Georgia Railroad.

[121] *City Directory,* 1867, pp. 32-35.

CHAPTER 45

1867

AS IT had each year since 1848, the City of Atlanta held an election on December 5, 1866, for officers to serve during 1867. James E. Williams was re-elected mayor while the council, elected at the same time to serve with him was composed of:

First Ward—M. T. Castleberry and D. P. Ferguson.
Second Ward—F. M. Richardson and A. W. Mitchell.
Third Ward—W. C. Anderson and George W. Terry.
Fourth Ward—J. E. Gullatt and W. B. Cox.
Fifth Ward—A. P. Bell and Anthony Murphy.[1]

On February 15th Councilmen Ferguson, Richardson and Murphy resigned. They were succeeded by Richard Peters, E. E. Rawson, and Julius A. Hayden. Councilman Bell resigned April 19th. E. W. Holland was appointed to the vacancy on the 26th by General Pope.[2]

Ministerial officers elected by the Mayor and Council of 1867 were: S. B. Love, Clerk of Council; S. B. Hoyt, City Attorney; Robert M. Farrar, Treasurer; E. J. Roach, Physician; James F. Cooper, City Engineer; Robert Crawford, Commissioner of Public Works; George Stewart, Overseer of Streets; Jonas S. Smith, Tax Receiver and Collector; Patrick Fitzgibbon, Hall-keeper and Messenger; G. A. Pilgrim, Sexton; R. S. Waters, W. C. Humphries and C. F. Wood, City Assessors.[3]

The Police Department was composed of L. P. Thomas, Chief Marshal; E. C. Murphy, Deputy Marshal; J. L. Johnson, 1st Lieutenant; Timothy C. Murphy, 2nd Lieutenant, and 30 policemen, compensated at the rate of $2.25 per day.[4]

The new administration, upon assuming office, found a balance of $29,744.67 in the City treasury[5]—a nice gain over the same period two years previously when the balance was only $1.64.

As the newly elected and re-elected city officials of Atlanta for 1867 began to function in their respective offices the Congress of the United States fired a salvo which brought consternation to the South. The Reconstruction Act of March 2, 1867, and its supplements of March 23rd and July 19th were passed over President Johnson's veto. This Act, ordained by the radicals in Congress, meant the remaking of the southern states, including Georgia, through a new electorate, prescribed by Congress to include Negroes and to exclude the most capable and respected citizens; a new constitution, which should secure suffrage to the freedmen; and the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, previously rejected by the legislature. Military rule was to be resumed with the South divided into five military districts, each under the command of an officer of the United States army, not below the rank of brigadier general, appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. The duties of this officer, duly supported by an adequate military force, included the registration of the legal voters of each state, excluding those who had ever been disfranchised for disloyalty, and admitting Negroes on the same basis as whites. This done, he should next arrange for the election of delegates to a convention to draw up a new constitution providing for Negro suffrage. If this constitution should receive a majority vote of the people, the general in charge was to order the necessary elections to put it into effect. If Congress then approved the new constitution and the legislature elected under it should ratify the Fourteenth Amendment so as to make it a part of the National Constitution, the reconstructed state should be considered eligible for readmission to both houses of Congress. Military rule would then be withdrawn.[6]

So it was that military rule was restored much as it was in May, 1865, when the Confederate power collapsed. Yet it was not the same, for in '65 military force was intended to protect life and property in the transition from war to peace, and to assist in the reconstruction of civil authority. In 1867, the civil organization, which had operated with a fair degree of success since December, 1865, was declared provisional only, and upon it was superimposed the command of a major general of the army and his subordinates. The constructive work and painful labor of almost two years was largely nullified. Reconstruction began again, as if the war had ended in 1867 instead of 1865.[7]

I. W. Avery summed up Southern reaction to the Reconstruction Act, when he said:

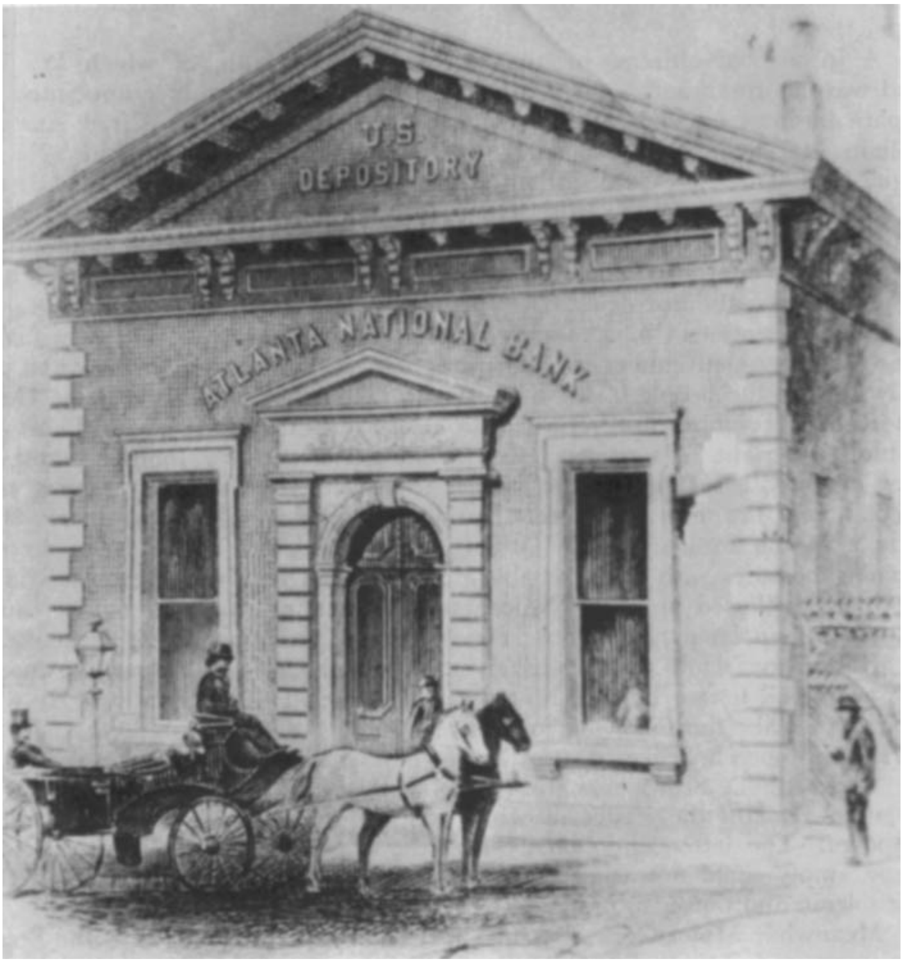
> "It was an amazing piece of statesmanship to disfranchise our intelligence and make the hereditary slaves of two centuries rulers of our political destiny. It degraded, alarmed and exasperated our people. We had the whole argument of the case on our side. They had the might. Our reconstructors had excelled themselves in this last fantastic act of national restoration. Our people were angered to white heat, and they entered upon an uncompromising fight against the astounding project."[8]

The impending crisis inspired ex-Governor Joseph E. Brown to make a trip to Washington for the purpose of determining just how earnest the North was as to radical reconstruction, and what hope, if any, there might be of resistance to these odious measures. Brown was accompanied by Judge Dawson A. Walker of Murray County, then an associate justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He conversed with the most influential men on both sides of the question from President Johnson down, and conferred with leaders of every shade of opinion. The upshot of the matter was that Brown returned to Georgia convinced that resistance would be in vain, and that while he abhorred personally the Reconstruction Act, he felt that the people of Georgia would do well to make the best of the situation and cooperate with the inevitable. Upon giving voice to these sentiments, which represented an honest opinion, the Governor brought much wrath upon his own head, for his view did not become the popular view of the situation.[9]

The people of Atlanta were not slow to take action with respect to the new reconstruction. On February 28, 1867, a notice was published suggesting the propriety of a public meeting to be held on March 4th at the City Hall, in order to give the people an opportunity of expressing their opinion as to the best course to be pursued. The call for the meeting was signed by the following representative citizens:

Ira R. Foster, Joseph Winship, E. E. Hulbert, Lemuel Dean, John H. Flynn, Alfred Austell, George Hillyer, Holmes Sells, D. F. Hammond, P. L. Mynatt, Richard Peters, E. E. Rawson, S. P. Richards, P. P. Pease, R. P. Zimmerman, Clark Howell, E. P. Howell, W. F. Meador, J. W. Simmons, F. M. Richardson, J. R. Wallace, H. C. Barrow, W. A. Fuller, W. M. Butt, J. D.

Pope, W. C. Moore, R. M. Farrar, C. A. Pitts, J. J. Morrison, John Silvey, T. W. J. Hill, Henry P. Farrow, J. A. Hayden, T. G. Healey, J. W. Loyd, J. Lemmons, E. F. Hoge, H. Muhlenbrink, L. S. Salmons, J. B. Campbell, J. E. Gullatt, A. A. Gaulding, J. A. Doane, A. K. Seago, Vines Fish, H. C. Hornady, J. C. Hendrix and C. C. Green.[10]



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Atlanta's First "National" Bank, organized 1865 by General Alfred Austell and associates as it appeared about 1867. Located south side of Alabama Street between Whitehall and Pryor. This bank is the oldest component of the present First National Bank of Atlanta

Came March 4th and the City Hall was filled at an early hour by interested and aroused citizens Richard Peters was made chairman of the meeting and William L. Scruggs, secretary. Resolutions were proposed, declaring that Georgia should, without hesitation, adopt the plan of restoration recently proposed by Congress. Naturally there was opposition. While the discussion was going on, former mayor Luther J. Glenn offered a substitute, which opposed any action at all. Such confusion followed that an attempt to take a vote was impossible, so the meeting adjourned. However, those who favored the Glenn resolution remained, reorganized, and after some discussion, adopted their measure. The adjourned meeting of the morning reconvened at 7 P.M. of the same day, at which time their resolutions were adopted; thus two sets of resolutions, contrary in spirit, were passed upon. Former Governor Brown came into the hall just before the meeting closed, and, in a forceful speech, advised submission, giving sound and logical reasons for his judgment in the matter.[11]

A subsequent citizens' meeting was held April 20th, of which W. W. Boyd was chairman and V. A. Gaskill, secretary. The committee appointed to prepare business for the meeting consisted of H. P. Farrow, Alfred Austell, William Markham, Richard Peters, J. L. Dunning, M. G. Dobbins, N. L. Angier, J. J. Thrasher, G. W. Adair, J. M. Calhoun, L. Schofield, C. P. Cassin, H. O. Hoyt and T. W. J. Hill. This committee made a report strongly supporting the plan of reconstruction tendered the South, and inviting the entire people of the country to cooperate with them in accepting said legislation without protest, hesitation or delay.[12]

But the sentiment of a majority of the people was by no means in favor of proceeding quietly under the reconstruction acts. Governor Jenkins had already advised the people of the State not to take action under the laws. General Robert Toombs, just returned from Europe, declared his readiness to establish the right of secession. Ex-Governor Herschel V. Johnson wrote a letter in July, 1867, urging the people to register, but advising against the acceptance of the terms proposed. During the same month Benjamin H. Hill made a speech in Davis Hall, Atlanta, in which he denounced the reconstruction measures with unsurpassable eloquence and flaming vehemence. This speech was followed up with "Notes on the Situation," maintaining the same position and in language seldom, if ever equaled for magnificent invective.[13]

Hill's Davis Hall speech was given wide publicity in the press. Among those who read it was Thomas Maguire of Promised Land Plantation. He was inspired to make the following journal entry under date of July 20th. "Read B. H. Hill's speech delivered at Atlanta—it is good enough."

As Joseph E. Brown was the leader on the side of reconstruction, so was Benjamin H. Hill the leader of what was a most savage anti-reconstruction campaign. The latter undoubtedly had the popular side of the issue. The people simply could not accept the enfranchisement of the Negro without the most solemn and powerful protest.[14]

Meanwhile Major-General John Pope, U.S.A., was appointed by the President, commander of the Third Military District, comprising Georgia, Alabama and Florida. Pope was a native of Illinois; was graduated from West Point in 1842 and saw active and meritorious service in the Mexican War. In 1861 he was made a brigadier-general and fought successfully with the Western armies until 1862, when he took command of the Eastern armies in their attempt upon Richmond. Much was expected of Pope, who, upon taking command proclaimed to his soldiers, "I have come to you from the West, where we have always seen the backs of our enemies. My headquarters will be in the saddle."[15]

A story has long gone the rounds that General Robert E. Lee, upon hearing of Pope's announcement commented that "the saddle was a peculiar place for a general's headquarters, his hindquarters belonged there."

At any rate Pope fought the battles of Cedar Mountain and Second Manassas, in which latter conflict he was soundly drubbed by "Stonewall"

Jackson, after which he returned to Washington, where he asked to be relieved of his command. The request was granted and he was transferred to the department of the Northwest.[16]

General Pope arrived in Atlanta by special train from Chattanooga, Sunday, March 31, 1867, and was received and welcomed at the depot by a committee of citizens by whom he was escorted to the National Hotel. Here he was elegantly entertained, a large number of citizens calling upon him to pay their respects. The General received them in civilian dress, and made a favorable impression. During the evening of the same day he left for Montgomery, Alabama.[17] From that point Pope issued, on April 3rd, his first general order. Since it represents a declaration of his intentions, it is herewith quoted:

"General Orders No. 1.

In compliance with general orders No. 18, dated headquarters of the army, March 15, 1867, the undersigned assumes command of the Third Military District. . . .

II. The civil officers at present in office in Georgia, Florida and Alabama, will retain their offices until the expiration of their terms of service, unless otherwise directed in special cases, so long as justice is impartially and faithfully administered. It is hoped that no necessity will arise for the interposition of the military authorities in the civil administration, and the necessity can only arise from the failure of the civil tribunals to protect the people, without distinction, in their rights of person and property.

III. It is to be clearly understood, however, that the civil officers thus retained in office shall confine themselves strictly to the performance of their official duties, and while holding their offices they shall not use any influence to deter or dissuade the people from taking an active part in reconstructing their state government under the act of Congress, to provide for more efficient government of the Rebel States, and the act supplementary thereto.

IV. No elections will be held in any of the States comprising this military district, except such as are provided for in the act of Congress, and in the manner therein established; but all vacancies in civil offices which now exist, or which may occur by the expiration of the terms of office of the present incumbents before the prescribed registration of voters is complete, will be filled by appointment of the general commanding the district.

JOHN POPE, Major-General Commanding."[18]

General Pope returned to Atlanta from Montgomery on April 11th and the following night was tendered a complimentary supper at the National Hotel. The band of the Sixteenth Regiment Regular Infantry furnished music for the occasion. The honor guest made a speech in which he said that he came to this State to perform a duty as distasteful and embarrassing to him as it was disagreeable to the people of Georgia. He expected to be received at least with indifference, if not with positive dislike. Hence the hearty welcome he had received was an assurance of the people's cooperation in the performance of his duties, and encouraged the hope that his mission would be both satisfactory and brief. The first of many toasts made during the evening was offered by V. A. Gaskill, chairman of the reception committee: "Our Pope—may he be as infallible as the law has made him powerful."[19]

S. P. Richards noted the Pope appointment and subsequent arrival in his diary:

"Sunday, Mar. 24—The Radical Congress at Washington has put us all under Military government again, and Gen. Pope is our ruler. We are invited to form new State Constitutions giving to the negroes the right of suffrage, and I suppose we shall *have to do it.*"

"Saturday, Apr. 13—Gen. Pope, our Military Governor has come to town and some of our Citizens have given him a Supper and the leading toast was 'Our Pope—may he prove to be as infallible as he is powerful,' to which he responded quite happily, thanking the party for their kind and *Catholic* toast. He appears to be a very sensible and well-disposed person."

Soon after his arrival, General Pope established headquarters, not in the saddle, but in the two-and-a-half-story brick home of pioneer citizen Christian Kontz,[20] where lately stood the Georgian-American Building, 80-86 Marietta Street.

During the early part of May, Pope, as a precautionary measure, issued an order demanding the presence of the Mayor, with the Marshal and a police force at all public meetings of the citizens, which order made the Mayor liable to be tried by court martial in the event of disturbance if he was not present in compliance with the order. For his own protection Mayor Williams asked Council for an ordinance, adopted on May 31st to the effect that citizens were prohibited from holding public meetings without first giving the Mayor or Marshal twelve hours' notice. The Military order was strictly complied with during Pope's tenure of office.[21]

As the second Military Reconstruction Act required all commanders to make a list of voters before September 1, 1867, General Pope set about this task for his district without delay. On May 13th he appointed Edward Hulbert supervisor of registration, with his office at Macon, Georgia. Hulbert, a native of New York, had been assistant superintendent of the Adams Express Company in Atlanta before the war, and afterward superintendent of the Southern Express Company. He was a large, powerful man, bold and decisive, with superior administrative ability, withal the most useful instrument Pope had.[22]

On May 21st General Pope issued an order setting forth arrangements for the registration of voters in Georgia and Alabama. A board of registration was appointed for each senatorial district, consisting of two white men and one Negro. The "registers," as they were called were compensated upon the plan of census takers, fees ranging from fifteen cents per name in cities to forty cents in country districts. It was therefore good business to record as many names as possible. Hordes of illiterate Negroes were herded to the polls, where some were registered two or three times under different names. Many of these, having not the remotest idea what registration meant, and believing it represented another free distribution of something to eat or wear, hurried to the polls with baskets and buckets lest it give out before they arrived.[23]

Fulton, together with Clayton and Cobb counties, constituted the thirty-fifth election district, the "registers" being Henry G. Cole of Marietta and C. W. Lee of Jonesboro. There were special boards for some of the larger cities; that for Atlanta consisting of Dr. Joseph Thompson (an excellent choice) and T. M. Robinson. The registry when completed for Atlanta was as follows:

First Ward............	white, 523;	colored, 396
Second Ward..........	white, 280;	colored, 220
Third Ward...........	white, 181;	colored, 203
Fourth Ward..........	white, 343;	colored, 521
Fifth Ward............	white, 438;	colored, 281
Total...............	white, 1765;	colored, 1621

For Fulton County as a whole the total registry was, white, 2,419; colored, 1,920.[24]

It is interesting to note in this connection that Atlanta alone among the five largest cities of the state had a larger white than colored registry. The opposite was true in Savannah, Augusta, Macon and Columbus.[25]

From April until August, 1867, General Pope and the civil officers got along fairly well. His policy was to allow these officers to continue in the performance of their duties unless they attempted to obstruct the execution of the Reconstruction Acts, and provided they exercised authority to the interests of all alike, with no discrimination as to race. Vacancies in elective offices were filled by the military commander, and here Pope ran into trouble. Practically all of the really competent men were hostile to the Reconstruction Acts, and the newspapers heaped abuse upon those who would accept office by military appointment. As between competency and loyalty, however, Pope preferred loyalty. The General made it clear that all civil authority was merely provisional, and that state laws held only until overruled by military order.[26]

During August, 1867, General Pope issued the Newspaper Order and the Jury Order, both of which brought all latent hostility against him to the fore. The Newspaper Order, issued August 12th, was calculated to encourage favorable public opinion by nourishing a friendly press and starving hostile papers. In Atlanta the order forbade city printing to be given to any papers not favorable to reconstruction. The editors of reputable newspapers raised a howl and this resulted in the loss, by General Pope, of his reputation for conservatism. A week later came the Jury Order, giving Negroes the right to jury service denied to them under the laws of 1866. This order resulted in the removal from office of Judge Augustus Reece, of the Ocmulgee Circuit, who refused to carry it out. From this time hostility to Pope increased steadily.[27]

Registration having been completed an election was held from October 29th to November 1st. The electors were asked to vote for or against a constitutional convention and for delegates thereto. Inasmuch as the Congressional Act of March 23rd provided that such a convention should be held only in case a majority of those registered voted for it, the conservatives largely abstained from voting, hoping that the required majority would not be secured. That was an unfortunate mistake. Of the total vote cast throughout the State, 106,410, three-fourths were Negroes, the final tally showing 102,283 in favor of the convention. Thus it would have been far better had the conservatives taken part in the selection of delegates.[28]

As a result of this election the Constitutional Convention met at the City Hall in Atlanta on December 9, 1867, and remained in session until March 11, 1868. It will be discussed in the following chapter.

On September 20, 1867, an ill-timed proposal was received by city council from James L. Dunning, President of the newly organized Lincoln National Monument Association. The proposal incorporated a request that the city donate ten acres of valuable land as a site for a proposed memorial park and monument to the lately murdered president. Council, instead of an angry rebuff, handled the matter with finesse. The mayor appointed a committee of council composed of Richard Peters. E. E. Rawson and A. W. Mitchell to consider the matter. The committee report, adopted by council, was to the effect that the city would gladly give the acreage provided the Association raised between $750,000 and $1,000,000 for the park and monument, which sum the importance of the project seemed to justify. As was expected, the matter never came up again.[29]

The slave population of Fulton and De Kalb counties just prior to the war, in 1860, was small compared to that of other sections of the state to the east and south, while the free Negro population was negligible. Williams' Atlanta Directory for 1859-60 listed seven free Negroes, Erasmus Cobb, G. Ezzard, Dougherty Hutchins, Solomon Luckie, Albert Scott and Robert Yancey, all barbers, and Roderick D. Badger, dentist. The U. S. Census of Fulton County for 1860 shows a total of 31 free Negroes. Two lived in the 4th Ward of Atlanta, 23 in the 5th Ward, and 6 in the Blackhall District immediately south of the city. Their occupations included one prostitute, one train hand, one locomotive fireman, and several laborers and washerwomen.[30] Fewer still lived in De Kalb County. Of a total of 8, one, a farmer, resided in Stone Mountain District, six lived in Panthersville District, and one, Preston Webb, a horse trainer, was domiciled with the family of John N. Pate in Decatur.[31]

By 1867 the picture had changed completely, especially as it concerned Atlanta. The Negroes, now all free, flocked to the cities from rural sections all over the State, for by instinct they loved a crowd, and freedom, if it meant nothing else, meant a change of environment. For the first year or so after the war, before it dawned upon the Negroes that to eat it was necessary to work, nearly every corner had its full quota of loitering, ex-plowboys and field hands, who lived mainly by handouts from the Freedman's Bureau, or upon what they could borrow, beg or steal. And though everyone was clamoring for laborers, Negro hucksters harangued the street corner loafers, telling them not to work for the whites unless they could get extravagant privileges. Yet not all of the Negroes who came to town were loafers. A considerable number had been skilled mechanics on the plantations, and, after the first novelty of freedom wore off, found a good market for their skills. The carriage driver found work at the livery stable; the carpenter, plasterer and blacksmith helped to rebuild a shattered city; the seamstress found a ready demand for her labor, and the plantation houseservants, male and female, soon became the urban domestic. The unlettered and unskilled field hand finally settled down as the pick and shovel man on the city streets and upon the newly projected railroads of the late sixties.[32]

This new or greatly augmented class of black inhabitants changed the character of Negro dwellings in towns. While many domestics continued to live in the rear of white people's houses, as they had in slavery days, whole sections of cities gave way to Negro tenements and settlements—sections that inevitably became known as "Darktown," "Buttermilk Bottom," "Shermantown," "Black Bottom," etc.[33]

In Atlanta Negro settlements developed in each of its five wards, forming the nucleus of the present older Negro districts. Topographically these settlement were not well located, for the white folk continued to live along the ridges and atop the hills, while the Negro had to seek his home in the valleys and bottoms.

In the 1st ward, comprising the territory west of Whitehall Street and the M. & W. and W. & A. railroads, Negro settlements developed between 1865 and 1870, in the low ground immediately west of the present Elliott Street and Terminal Station. In the 2nd ward, bounded by Whitehall Street and then McDonough Street, now Capitol Avenue, Negroes settled in the section contiguous to McDaniel Street, now known as "Pittsburgh." The 3rd ward, then comprising all territory in the angle formed by the Georgia Railroad and McDonough Street, developed a large Negro section in the valley east of Capitol Avenue along Fraser, Martin and Terry streets. This portion of the city includes the localities known as Peasville, Summer, Hill and Peoplestown. The old 4th ward, covering all territory north of the Georgia Railroad and east of Ivy and Peachtree streets, became host to a large Negro settlement along Decatur Street east of Pratt and in the so-called Butler Street bottoms. In the 5th ward, between Peachtree and Marietta streets, the low ground along the Tanyard Branch, now included in the Techwood Housing Project, became a Mecca for the Negro. With the exception of Techwood, now exclusively white, Atlanta's original Negro sections have remained so through the third and fourth generations.[34]

The immediate problem of emancipation was that of labor. But, says C. Mildred Thompson in her book, *Reconstruction in Georgia,*[35] "in 1867 and 1868, when the reconstruction program of Congress attempted to subvert the whole social order of the Southern states by making the former masters impotent and putting the instrument of power into the hands of the former slaves, and keeping it there by military force, then, indeed, came a social problem that the South and the nation have not yet in half a century been able to solve. The Southern white man did not consider that constitutional emancipation changed a particle the natural inferiority of the blacks to the white people. Freedom simply meant that the Negro was no longer the property of an individual to be bought and sold, cared for and used by him. Natural inferiority of race and long habit made the Negro dependent on the white. No legal measure could suddenly infuse into a weak, childish, irresponsible people, independence and competence.

"An act of Congress might affect the law of property, but it could not immediately alter social and psychological traits in any people. Slavery was the historic condition of the blacks, and even though the mechanism was destroyed, the principles on which it rested, inferiority of Negroes to whites, incompetence to work without direction and compulsion, irresponsibility in protecting and caring for themselves, still remained. This was the point of view of the representative Southerner. Though some slaveholders welcomed emancipation as a relief from their burdens, this attitude was exceptional, and most Southerners accepted emancipation only of necessity. But however unwelcome emancipation was, Southerners who had owned slaves felt no ill will toward the irresponsible blacks who had freedom thrust upon them. Among the whites, however, who had owned no slaves [because of their economic condition], the 'poor whites' hostility toward the Negro was felt and expressed. The emergence of the Negro as a free laborer created a rival to the poor white man, from which slavery had largely insulated him."

The political enfranchisement of the Negro in 1867 intensified the mutual hostility of the poor whites and the Negroes. Indeed, this class of the white population feared and hated the Negro, whereas the latter felt and showed profound contempt for "poor white trash."[36]

The crying need of the Negro following his release from slavery was education, even of the most rudimentary type. And it was in the Atlanta of 1867, when Atlanta University was chartered, that his local age of enlightenment received its impetus. The founding of this institution was the seed which has enabled Atlanta to become, through the years, a notable center of higher education for Negroes.

Since the first efforts to give Negro children in Atlanta a start in the direction of an education began in 1865, it might be well to review them briefly.

The pioneer disciple of local Negro education was Rev. Frederick Ayer who arrived in the city with his wife under the auspices of the American Missionary Association at Cincinnati on November 15, 1865. Mr. Ayer was a native of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, and for many years had served as a missionary in Wisconsin and Minnesota, among both the white settlers and the Indians. Shortly after their arrival in Atlanta, the Ayers were joined by two young women, sisters, the Misses Rosa and Lucy C. Kinney.[37]

At this time, in an old church building on Jenkins, now Armstrong Street, near the present City Auditorium, was a small private school recently opened by James Tate and Grandison B. Daniels, both ex-slaves. Theirs was the first school in Atlanta for colored children. In another part of the city, near Walton Spring was a railroad car, recently purchased in Chattanooga for $310 and brought to Atlanta to serve as a school. To Mr. Ayer fell the task of properly locating the car and dividing it by a partition into two schoolrooms. In these two places, far from ideal, but the best that could then be obtained, the work began. Mr. Ayer and Lucy Kinney taught at the Jenkins Street School, and Mrs. Ayer and Rosa Kinney at the Walton Spring School, popularly known as the "Car-Box."[38]

Under conditions then existing in Atlanta it was necessary to have a Teacher's Home, which would serve as headquarters for the work and give shelter to the workers. Accordingly, a building located at the northwest corner of Houston and Calhoun (now Piedmont Avenue) streets was purchased in January, 1866. It was used for many years in connection with the educational work of the American Missionary Association,[39] and still stands as a private residence at 114 Piedmont Avenue, N.E.

Since the Jenkins Street and Walton Spring schools were not adapted as school buildings, they merely served the purpose until better facilities could be provided. In the summer of 1866 the lot on Houston Street adjoining the Teacher's Home was purchased, and by order of General Tilson of the Freedman's Bureau the old Confederate Commissary, which stood on the present site of the Candler Building, was rolled down Houston Street and named the Storr's School, the name being derived from a gift to the school of nearly a thousand dollars from the Storr's Congregational Church in Cincinnati. The building was dedicated as a school during the Christmas season of 1866 and served its useful purpose for 57 years.[40]

The Jenkins Street building and the "Car Box" were forthwith abandoned. Edmund Asa Ware, soon to become the first president of Atlanta University, was made principal of the Storr's School. Associated with Ware were Miss Jane Twichell, later to become his wife, and Miss Amy Williams, subsequently principal of Storr's.[41]

The coming of Edmund A. Ware to Atlanta gave the cause of local Negro education new stimulus. He was a native of Massachusetts and graduated from

Yale in the class of 1863. His early teaching experience was obtained in Norwich, Connecticut, and Nashville, Tennessee, in which latter place he was interested in the organization of Fisk University.[42]

While Mr. Ware was settling down to his work in Atlanta, Frederick Ayer was busy organizing another Negro school on Martin Street. It was completed in September, 1867, and was named the Ayer School in honor of its founder. A note of sadness attended the opening of this school on September 28th, for on that day Ayer died. His loss was deeply mourned by the people among whom he had worked. A few years later, when the public school system of Atlanta was organized and the city became the owner of the building, its name was changed to Summer Hill School, the name a new building on the original site still retains.[43]

The ideals of these pioneer workers in the local field of Negro education were not satisfied with what had thus far been accomplished. Even the first thought of a normal school did not satisfy them. The idea of a university was born, and the Superior Court of Fulton County was asked for a charter. The petition was signed by George Whipple, Edward P. Smith, E. M. Cravath, James Atkins, J. B. Fuller, William Jennings, John A. Rockwell, Joseph Wood, Edmund A. Ware and Frederick Ayer. It was granted by Judge John Collier on October 16, 1867, the petitioners being styled Trustees of the Atlanta University. One petitioner, Frederick Ayer, did not live to see this fruit of his untiring labor.[44]

At the first meeting of the trustees, October 22, 1867, Edmund A. Ware was elected first president of the embryonic university. The charter of the institution makes no reference to color or race. It may be that this fact occasioned some anxiety in the minds of the incorporators, for at the second meeting on December 28th, it was resolved: "that the University of Atlanta shall never exclude loyal refugees and Freedman, as such, from full participation in the educational benefits which said Institution shall confer on any other class."[45]

A search for an appropriate site for Atlanta University by the trustees resulted in the purchase of its present principal acreage bounded by Hunter Street, S.W., on the north, Chestnut on the west, Parsons on the south and Tatnall on the east, from Edward Parsons in 1869 for $12,500—the original tract containing 48½ acres. At various times since additional tracts have been purchased, chiefly north of Hunter Street.[47]

Edward Parsons (1812-1901), a native Englishman, came to Atlanta in 1856 by way of New Zealand, when he had gone to secure certain fruit-bearing and ornamental trees for Richard Peters. He served as a major in the Confederate army and after the war became a coal and lumber dealer in Atlanta. Parsons Street is named in his honor. The tract of land he sold to Atlanta University was very desirable, being high and nicely wooded. It has a distinctive diamond-shaped conformation at the intersection of West Mitchell and Tatnall streets, and for that reason was known for many years as "Diamond Hill."[48]

On property just across Hunter Street from the Parsons tract, and for many years connected with it by an overhead bridge, was built Atlanta University's original building, North Hall, in 1869. The laying of the cornerstone was celebrated with addresses by President Ware and John M. Langston, a noted colored educator and speaker. His theme was appropriate to the occasion: "Educate—Educate—Educate." A chorus from the Storr's School furnished music for the exercises. The next building, South Hall, directly across Hunter

Street from North Hall, was erected in 1870, while the old administration building, Stone Hall, long a dominant "West Side" landmark, was erected in 1882 through a gift from the estate of Mrs. Valeria G. Stone of Malden, Massachusetts. Atop Stone Hall is a clock tower, distinguished by a Thomas clock made in Connecticut, which for more than half a century kept good time, striking the hour and half hour. It was the gift of Miss Frances Norris, a colored woman living nearby, who was educated at Oberlin but who was much interested in Atlanta University. In donating the clock she had in mind both the school and the neighborhood.[49]

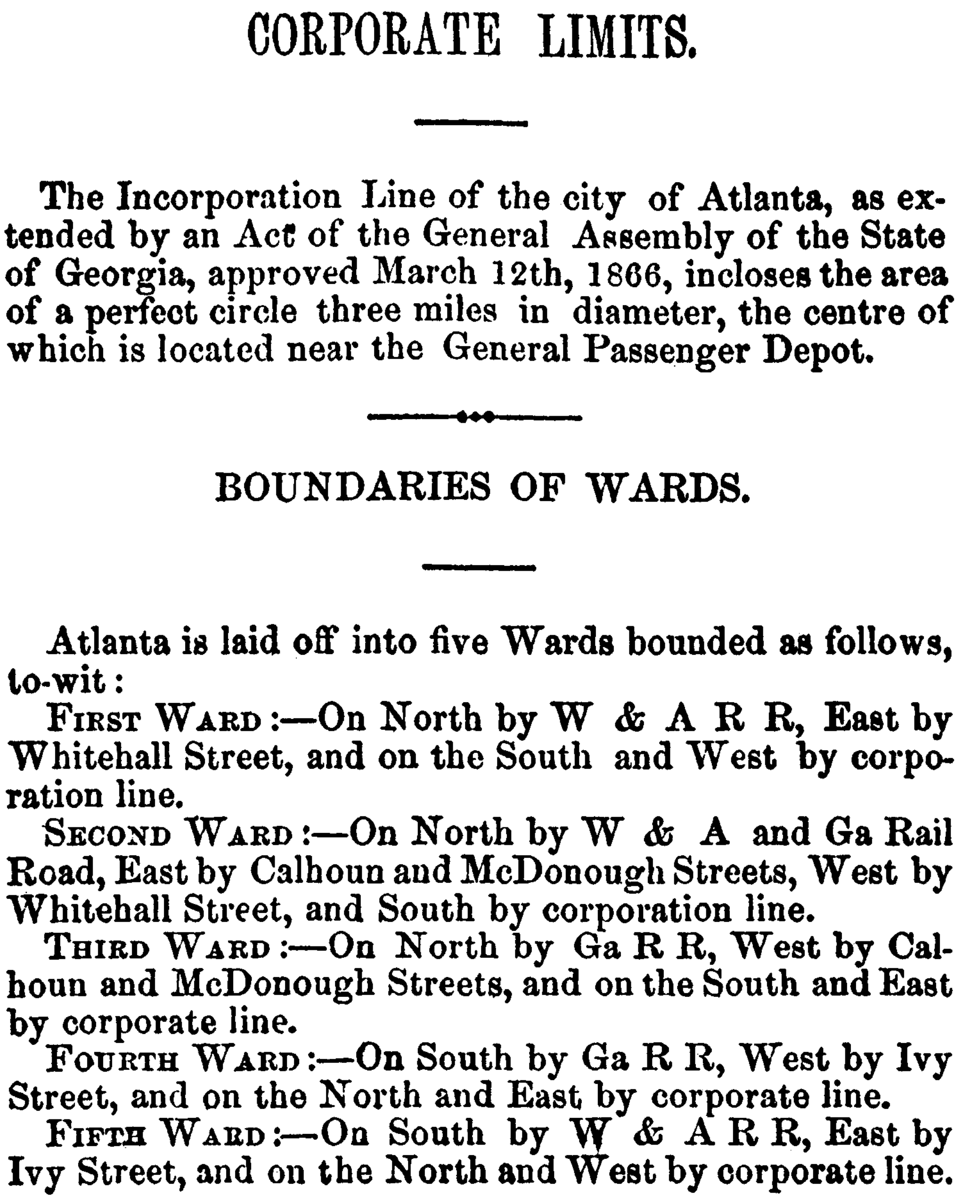
The original funds by which Atlanta University was able to get under way came from the Freedman's Bureau and the American Missionary Association. Both the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia turned a deaf ear to early appeals for funds, though the State legislature made a modest appropriation in 1870 which was continued for several years.[50]

In spite of limited finances President Ware was fortunate in his associates, for they were a dedicated lot. The curriculum was, under the circumstances, a matter of slow development. A group of promising students from the Storr's School were prepared for entrance into Atlanta University during the summer of 1869, all being grammar and first year high school scholars. The basis, therefore, of the original curriculum at Atlanta University was the high school. However, few students were prepared to enter upon studies of that grade, necessitating the organization of a grammar school, which was continued until 1894.[51]

Developments above high school level followed three principal lines: the Normal, the College and the Theological. The need of good teachers and good ministers was immediate, while the desire to give to colored students the best in education led naturally to the development of a college. Of these developments, two have been constant, the normal and the college courses. Since Atlanta University was never intended to be a denominational school, the theological development did not continue long and was discontinued in 1876, in which year three students graduated in the course. The same year the first college class, six in number, was graduated, while four normal school graduates completed their work in 1873.[52]

The administration of first President Edmund A. Ware marked a fine beginning to the work of Atlanta University. He laid the foundation upon which the future could build. On September 25, 1885, while walking up the Vine Street hill from his home to the University, he fell in front of the home of his associate and successor, Dr. Horace Bumstead. He was taken into the Bumstead home, where he soon expired. He was buried upon the campus of the University for which he had labored so long and faithfully. Over his grave, upon a boulder brought from New England, is a tablet bearing the following inscription:

EDMUND ASA WARE
First President of
ATLANTA UNIVERSITY
Born in Wrentham, Massachusetts
December 22, 1837
Died in Atlanta, Georgia
September 25, 1885[53]



CORPORATE LIMITS.

The Incorporation Line of the city of Atlanta, as extended by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, approved March 12th, 1866, incloses the area of a perfect circle three miles in diameter, the centre of which is located near the General Passenger Depot.

BOUNDARIES OF WARDS.

Atlanta is laid off into five Wards bounded as follows, to-wit:

First Ward:—On North by W & A R R, East by Whitehall Street, and on the South and West by corporation line.

Second Ward:—On North by W & A and Ga Rail Road, East by Calhoun and McDonough Streets, West by Whitehall Street, and South by corporation line.

Third Ward:—On North by Ga R R, West by Calhoun and McDonough Streets, and on the South and East by corporate line.

Fourth Ward:—On South by Ga R R, West by Ivy Street, and on the North and East by corporate line.

Fifth Ward:—On South by W & A R R, East by Ivy Street, and on the North and West by corporate line.

(From an original in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

A page from Atlanta Street Directory, as published in Barnwell's "City Directory and Stranger's Guide" for 1867

During 1867 the environs of Atlanta, principally the roads leading into the city, continued to be dangerous, particularly for lone travelers. An especially perilous neighborhood was the present Peachtree and Tenth Street locality, then known as "Tight Squeeze."

Prior to 1887 Peachtree Street, then road, was not straight from the present Peachtree Place to Eleventh Street. It took a westerly bend at Peachtree Place and followed what is now Crescent Avenue, returning to its present course at or about Eleventh Street. From an early period there was a cluster of small houses along the bend in the old road, and about where Tenth now crosses were a wagon yard, a blacksmith shop and several small wooden stores. From the eastern side of the bend a deep ravine extended to what is now Piedmont Avenue. The road was narrow, crooked and heavily wooded. The houses were mean looking, and it became a common saying that it took "a mighty tight squeeze to get through with one's life." When the County Commissioners straightened Peachtree Road in 1887, the ravine was filled in where the street now runs. Midway between Tenth and Eleventh streets the fill is thirty feet deep. From that time forward, with the city constantly pressing northward, the locality became a site for fine homes and old "Tight Squeeze" passed into limbo.[54]

One citizen who did not squeeze through "Tight Squeeze" with his life was John Plaster, age 35, Confederate veteran, and a grandson of the pioneer Benjamin Plaster. On Friday, February 22, 1867, John had hauled a load of firewood into the city by ox cart. Having disposed of the load he departed for home during the afternoon, via Peachtree Road. He never got there. About 5:30 P.M. he was found lying in the road at "Tight Squeeze," insensible from a heavy blow on the head. His team was standing quietly in the road. He was moved to a nearby house and died shortly thereafter. Plaster was a respectable citizen of good family, and although the motive of his assailant or assailants was doubtless robbery they were never caught.[55]

Another good citizen, Jerome Cheshire, was set upon about the same time and place and though not killed, received injuries from which he suffered all the remaining days of a long life.[56] The situation became so acute that the Fulton County grand jury for the first week of the April, 1867 term made the following strong recommendations:

> "The recent frequent atrocious attempts at murder and robbery upon respectable persons returning from the City of Atlanta after the transacting of their ordinary business, admonishes us that something should be speedily done to arrest such terrible outrageous conduct. We cannot too heartily commend the action of the Mayor and city council of Atlanta, as well as the citizens, for the liberal rewards offered for the apprehension of the perpetrators of the villianous deeds already committed. But this is not sufficient. The prevention of future similar occurrences must be provided for at once. We therefore recommend that the Inferior Court and Mayor and council of the City of Atlanta unite in raising a force of *Secret detectives* sufficient to patrol constantly the avenues leading to the city; adopt a prudent and judicious plan of operations; appoint men sober, steady and energetic, and we sincerely believe that if this course is faithfully carried out, the present alarming state of affairs will soon be changed to one of quiet and security."[57]
>
> EDMUND W. HOLLAND, Foreman.

The Fulton grand jury for the second week of the April term, took occasion, in its presentments, to point out other less-than-ideal conditions existing within the county during these troublous times:

"We feel it incumbent upon us to call attention to the fact that D. P. Ferguson, County Treasurer recently left for Honduras to be absent some time —how long we know not. Meantime the County is without a Treasurer.

"We have thoroughly examined the building which is called the jail, and pronounce it a public nuisance and earnestly recommend that the Inferior Court shall cause a suitable building to be erected in its stead at as early a day as possible. We have examined the Court House and find that it needs repairs. We recommend that a public privy be built on the public square. We would call the attention of the proper authorities of enclosing the City Hall building so soon as it can be done.

"We have examined the roads and as usual find them in a very bad condition. The streets of the City near the suburbs are, if possible, in worse condition than the County roads.

"We presume that as there have been no presentments made by the City officers, they having been called upon by the Grand Jury for infractions of the law against retailing liquor on the Sabbath day, that there has been no violation of the law, and that Bar Rooms are as they ought to be, hermetically sealed on that day.

"We beg to call the attention of the officers whose duty it is to enforce the laws against vagrants and paupers who are now arriving in our County.

James Ormond, Foreman.

Russell Baker
David N. Judson
John M. C. Reed
Richard P. Zimmerman
William L. Adamson
William L. Mangum
Leonidas Ferguson
William Holbrook
Daniel C. Venable
Eli T. Hunnicutt
Cornelius Sheehan
Jeremiah C. Huff
Richard B. Jett
Premascus McDonald
Green T. Dodd
Philip House
Owen Lynch
Thomas C. Jackson
Larkin Baker
John T. Akridge
William Rushton
Marcellus O. Markham"[58]

In the adjoining County of DeKalb, during this first year of radical reconstruction, the grand jury for the April term expressed hope for a better future:

"We recommend the Inferior Court to have all Public Roads thoroughly worked after crops are made.

"We have examined the Public buildings and find they need repairing to some extent, but on account of the pecuniary embarrassment of the County, we do not recommend any funds being appropriated for that purpose.

"In taking into consideration the moral condition of the country we have but little cause to complain, but hope the day is not far distant when Society will become more refined; our morals more elevated, and good citizens will be protected in all their rights and privileges, and bad men punished for their transgressions.

"In taking leave of his Honor, Judge Hiram Warner, we unanimously approve the able, efficient and dignified manner in which he has presided, and we flatter ourselves that we can assure our fellow citizens, that when and where he presides, he will use his best endeavors to enforce law and order."

William Wright, Foreman.

James L. Kilgore
John T. Alford
Marcus L. Minor
William S. McLain
Martin C. McKee
John W. Weekes
Job J. Marbut
William P. Bond
Harris Crowley
Harris Goodwin
Charles M. Jones

John F. Brown
James J. Cowan
Paschal C. Phillips
Lewis Ethridge
James C. Chupp
Edward M. Kittridge
Thomas T. Key
William W. Veal
Hilliard J. Fowler
Daniel S. Jones
Seaborn Crowley[59]

The situation in Fulton County with respect to the education of white children not able to attend private schools, was summed up by the grand jury for the first week of the October, 1867 term in the following language:

"We have examined the books of the Ordinary of this County and the condition of the Poor School Fund and find that officer's books neatly and legibly kept; that there are 1746 children reported on the list of this county as entitled to the benefits of the Poor School Fund; that the Board of Education have examined and pronounced as competent teachers, 38 persons, who report that they are teaching 1376 pupils, one half of whom are among those entitled to the benefit of the fund, and that this fund now in the Ordinary's hands amounts to $1414.68."

George W. Adair, Foreman.[60]

A gift, in February, 1867, of $1,000,000 to the cause of Southern education, by George Peabody, the American-born English banker and philanthropist, inspired revitalized activity and planning by Georgia educators in furtherance of public schools. They were moved to plan the organization of a state educational association, with local association in each county. The chief work expected of the association was to inaugurate a comprehensive common school system for the state and to insure that the plan so developed would be received by the Reconstruction Convention soon to assemble. After some preliminary work, it was agreed to hold the organizational meeting of the association in Atlanta on August 21, 1867. The *Daily Intelligencer* urged the cooperation of citizens and civil authorities, and requested railroads to allow half-price rates to delegates.[61]

The meeting took place as scheduled in Atlanta's City Hall, with 25 college presidents, professors and teachers from private schools in attendance. Among them was Bernard Mallon, then Superintendent of Public Schools in Savannah. He was destined in a few years to become the first superintendent of Atlanta's public schools. Present from Atlanta were: R. C. Ketchum, W. M. Bray, W. M. Janes, W. R. Jones, J. A. Richardson, J. V. Bradford, J. V. Connell, E. A. Ware, Thomas J. Dobbs, D. Swope, and T. H. Bomar.[62]

Dr. Henry H. Tucker, then of Penfield, later of Atlanta, was made temporary chairman and later president of the organization. Simpson Fouche, of Rome, W. LeRoy Brown, of the University of Georgia, J. M. Bonnell, of

Wesleyan, and G. J. Orr of Covington were elected vice-presidents; W. M. Janes became recording secretary; W. R. Jones, corresponding secretary, and R. C. Ketchum, treasurer. Henry H. Tucker, David W. Lewis and Bernard Mallon composed the executive committee. A constitution was adopted and the Georgia Teachers Association was launched. Its existence from that date to the present has been continuous. From 1867 to 1900 it bore its original name; from 1900 to 1922, the Georgia Educational Association, and since 1922, the Georgia Education Association.[63]

At its first meeting the association decided that some plan had to be formulated for an educational system. The chief stumbling block, however, was the great hordes of Negro children whose people, though free and legally made citizens, had little means of aiding financially. The white people, crippled as to resources, could not provide adequately for their own children. Even so after much debate it was determined that the new order of things had to be faced, and resolutions were passed in favor of "educating the blacks with equal privileges with the whites," though the association made it clear that the races were to be taught in separate schools.[64] The long-sought goal of a free public school system was moving ever nearer and nearer.

That private schools were enjoying a good patronage in the Atlanta of 1867 is indicated by their advertisements in the press, of which the following is more or less typical:[65]

ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL
Corner of Collins and Ellis Streets
(FORMER SITE OF FEMALE INSTITUTE)[66]

EXERCISES
Resumed Monday, 7th January, 1867
Two Daily Sessions—9-12 A.M., 2-5 P.M.

FACULTY
W. M. JANES, A.M., English and Greek
W. R. JONES, A.M., English and Latin
J. A. RICHARDSON, A.M., Mathematics
Primary Department

TERMS
Per Quarter of Ten Weeks, Payable strictly in Advance

Primary Department	$15.
Lower English	18.
Higher English	20.
Higher English and Ancient Languages	25.

The Faculty—all professional teachers, and Southern men—have determined to supply the want of a first class City High School. To this end they have purchased the building known as the Atlanta Female Institute; have fully supplied it with excellent school furniture, and have made preliminary arrangements for securing a Charter, and erecting larger, more substantial, and more suitable buildings. They are determined to merit and achieve success by honest, earnest, and continuous work.

The streets of the city became the subject of some work and much comment and name changing during 1867. A long standing source of annoyance to the citizens was the Whitehall Street crossing, just west of the passenger depot. During early '67 it received some attention from the street department which inspired the *Daily Intelligencer* to toss out an editorial bouquet headed "Fixed up Just Right." It read:

> "The Whitehall street railroad crossing is being fixed up after the most approved style. The work cannot be regarded as of a highly ornamental character, but it is substantial, and that should content us for the present. Pedestrians can now pass there in safety, while vehicles, heavily laden and othewise, are no longer in danger of sticking in the mud, and being run over by some ill-mannered locomotive. This is also a 'success.' "[67]

Even so, the crossing continued to be an annoyance for the next 34 years, until it was finally bridged in 1901.

During the month of June Major James F. Cooper, City Engineer, was employed by Council to make a map of the city.[68] Cooper set about this task diligently and in 1868 completed his labors. The result was a large wall map, measuring approximately four feet square, showing not only the location of all streets, but designating the ownership of nearly every lot. The Cooper map remains as a basic tool for historians and land title examiners.[69]

In September, 1867 the naming of streets was referred to a joint committee of councilmen consisting of Gullatt, Rawson, Hayden, Peters and Cox, and citizens James M. Ball, Lemuel P. Grant, George W. Adair, Oliver H. Jones, Robert M. Clarke, Joseph Winship, William Ezzard, Larkin H. Davis, John R. Wallace, William Rushton and Dr. F. D. Thurman.[70]

One of the first evidences of the handiwork of this committee became apparent in November, when the name of Whitehall Street from Marietta Street to the railroad crossing was changed to Peachtree.[71]

Other changes of the period, which resulted in the disappearance of certain antebellum street names were:[72]

Bartlett's Alley to Branch Alley. Still later it became Brotherton Street.
Elmore Street to Gullatt Street. Still later it became Oakland Avenue.
Fowler Street to Elliott Street. A new street in what is now the Techwood section became Fowler Street.
Green Street to West Hunter Street.
Oslin Street to Forrest Avenue (in honor of the Confederate cavalry leader).
Short Street to East Foundry Street.

The various county roads continued to remain in less than ideal shape, as exemplified by the following comment from the Fulton grand jury in October, 1867:

> "We find the road leading from Atlanta to Green's Ferry, the most public road in the county, entirely neglected, not having been worked on since the war. The road lies in Casey's District and near Ben Touchstone's, three miles from the city.[73] It is entirely impassable, the traveling public having to wind their way as best they can, thereby lengthening their route and doing much damage to land on that line. The land injured is owned by Fulton County (old Alms House property) and Benjamin Touchstone. The Peach Tree road is in bad order. A culvert three miles from the city is stopped up and causes the road to overflow."
>
> JAMES M. BALL, Foreman.[74]

The old White Hall settlement of Charner Humphries at the intersection of the Newnan and Sandtown roads, which antedated Atlanta by a few years, was by 1867 one of the fastest-growing suburbs of the city, and now bore the recently acquired name of West End. The establishment of commuter service by both the Atlanta & West Point and Macon & Western railroads, early in 1867, inspired the following article in the *Daily Intelligencer,*[75] titled:

" 'West End' in the Ascendant.

"The rapid strides being made by this delightful suburban locality are known to only those who have made visits there. Lots have been purchased and houses have gone up like magic, and we may remark that the buildings constructed have not been confined to purposes of private residence, but 'West End' boasts its Academy, and as many as two full-fledged stores are now in successful operation for the convenience of the 'West End'-ers.

"The rising generation of that rural, but at the same time sufficiently cityfied locality, will enjoy educational advantages of a superior order, while the good matrons will find in the stores all the little merchantable commodities so necessary to a well run household.

"But the feature to which we desire to call special attention in this paragraph is a new one in the history of 'West End,' and one that must necessarily exert a wonderful influence on its prosperity. Its citizens are to enjoy railway facilities, and the arrangement went into operation on yesterday.

"A depot has been constructed on the track of the Macon & Western Railroad by the property holders of that locality. This depot is a distance of one and one half miles from the general passenger depot in this city,[76] and is within easy reach of any part of 'West End.' So soon as the building was completed, application was made to the Superintendent of the Macon & Western Road, E. B. Walker, Esq., to allow the various trains on that line of railway to stop at the new depot for the purpose of taking on or putting off passengers for that point. Application was also made to the Superintendent of the West Point Road, Col. [L. P.] Grant, to the same end, and we are gratified to state that the ready assent of both gentlemen was obtained. This arrangement is now in successful operation, and how advantageous it must prove will be seen below.

"Parties living in 'West End' may reach their business houses at 8:37 o'clock, A.M. by stepping on the West Point train when it comes along. Should they desire to dine at home they may do so by taking the outgoing West Point train, which leaves the city at 12:15 o'clock P.M. An hour may be spent with their families, when the Macon train, due here at 1:57 o'clock P.M., will come along. At the close of the business of the day, parties may return to their homes on the 8:10 P.M., Macon train.

"It will thus be seen that the regular schedules of the two above roads as perfectly meet the wants of the residents of 'West End' as if they had been especially arranged for that purpose. The fare to be charged will be a mere nominal sum, as tickets for a season will be issued.

"And thus we find the star of our delightful little suburban village in the ascendant, and upon the fact we feel inclined to congratulate the good citizens thereof. The plot of ground is beautifully undulating, and when the numerous residences and cottages, not to mention those already dotting here and there, now in contemplation, shall have been completed, we can boast a secluded spot of no ordinary attraction, where refuge may be found from the noise and bustle of our busy city. Vive la West End."

During the following year the people of West End decided to incorporate. On August 20, 1868, Fulton County Representative James E. Gullatt introduced an appropriate bill, which was approved on October 10th. The charter of the newly incorporated town authorized the election of an intendant and three councilmen and provided also for the taxing of liquor dealers. Approximate geographical limits were Greensferry on the North, Holderness on the West, White on the South and, in general, the M. & W. (Central of Georgia) Railroad on the East, though some territory east of the railroad was included. Two years later, in 1870, the U. S. census gave West End a population of 621—300 of whom were Negroes.[77]

Another real estate development of 1867 in the southwest part of the city served to give the citizens of Atlanta relief from armed camps on the City Hall grounds and in the old City Park north of the passenger station. On September 21st the United States government leased the old Race Track property from Thomas Alexander for five years at $1,000 per annum, with the privilege of renewal. This historic tract of land, located in Land Lot 108 of the 14th District had been used during ante-bellum days as a militia muster ground and for miscellaneous purposes of entertainment. Among the owners, prior to its acquisition by railroad contractor Alexander in 1866, were John Westmoreland, the original grantee from the State, Charner Humphries, Gartrell, Loyd and Pulliam; John J. Thrasher, William Solomon, Edward E. Rawson and Sidney Root.[78]

The Race Track property, roughly circular in shape, and bounded by Greensferry Avenue, Humphries Street and Race Track Street, later changed to Chapel Street, became the site of McPherson Barracks, named for the late commander of the Army of the Tennessee, James B. McPherson, killed at the Battle of Atlanta. The grounds were laid out appropriately with a parade ground in the center. All of the surrounding buildings, including a score of barracks for the men, officers' quarters, Post Hospital, guard house, magazine, bakery and stables, were constructed of wood. This army post, the predecessor of Fort McPherson, served as headquarters for all U. S. troops stationed in Atlanta until the early 1880's. The east half of the property was later sold to Spelman Seminary. Streets were ultimately cut through the west half, where, on Ella Street, S.W., yet stand one or two of the old two-story frame barracks buildings.[79]

Among the many problems facing the people of Georgia and of Atlanta in post-war days was that of aiding the State's widows and orphans of Confederate soldiers. Over 50,000 children had been left fatherless and 10,000 more were orphans. The usual sources of revenue, taxation and philanthropy, were far too meager, for an impoverished people could pay only minimum taxes, and even if inclined to philanthropy, had not the wherewithal to indulge such inclinations. Yet it has always been that those with even the most limited means have not been averse to taking a chance if the possibility of a substantial reward existed. Thus was born, in 1866, the idea for a State Lottery, though such institutions had been illegal in Georgia since before the war.

However, the need was pressing and the Legislature, late in 1866, passed "An Act to so far modify the laws against lotteries as to enable William W. Boyd, of the City of Atlanta, State of Georgia, and Mrs. William Wilson, widow of Colonel William T. Wilson, Seventh Georgia, Mrs. Mary Ann Williams,[80] Mrs. Phoebe Pember, Mrs. Charles D. Pember, Mrs. Rosa S.

Deloney, Mrs. Sarah Doles, or as many of them as may accept the same, a majority of whom shall receive the powers herein granted, to adopt a scheme to raise money for the purpose of building a home for and supporting indigent widows and orphans, home to be called Masonic Orphans' Home."

It was further enacted that these persons should have the right and authority to establish lotteries and agencies to raise money for the purchase of real estate, and the erection of buildings thereon, in or near Atlanta. The trustees, so called, were required to make annual returns to the governor of Georgia, under oath, of all the monies received from the lotteries, and of all expenses paid by them.[81]

Thus was born Atlanta's first and only legal gamble. The Georgia State Lottery was established in a brick building at the southwest corner of Walton and Forsyth streets—part of the present Grant Building site—and diagonally across the street from the old First Baptist Church. William W. Boyd became principal manager. Though the originally intended orphans' home was never built, the lottery aided the cause of education. In 1867 the Orphans' Free School, Mrs. A. P. Hill, Principal, was opened on the second floor of the Lottery Building, and was continued for several years. Among the teachers were Mrs. H. M. Colquitt, stepmother of future Governor Alfred H. Colquitt; Miss Bomar, daughter of Atlanta's second mayor; Mrs. Ragan, the aunt of Colonel Tom Howard; Mrs. Julia Butler, and Miss Alvareen Hoyle, later Mrs. William H. Howell. In addition to the rudimentary subjects, pupils of the Orphans' Free School were taught physiology, chemistry, Latin and German. A music course was projected, but did not materialize.[82]

The mechanics of the lottery are set forth in the following advertisement which appeared in the *Daily Intelligencer* of January 1, 1867:

A Brick Residence,

TOGETHER WITH

FORTY-SEVEN PRIZES,

TO BE DISPOSED OF

IN A LOTTERY

OF FOUR HUNDRED CHANCES, AT $10 EACH.

Capital Prize, House and Lot (in Atlanta)—value $3000
6 Gold Watches,
12 Silver Watches,
1 Silver-Plated Tea Set,
1 fine French Clock,
1 fine Music Box,
1 fine Silver-Plated Coffee Urn,
6 fine Silver-Plated Castors,
6 fine Silver-Plated Cake Baskets,
6 fine Silver-Plated Revolving Butter Dishes,
6 fine Silver-Plated Ice Pitchers,
1 fine large Photograph Album—200 pictures.

There will be four hundred tickets issued, and sold at $10 each, and forty-eight of these tickets are certain to draw a prize. The drawing will take place when all the tickets are sold, and will be conducted in the following manner: There will be two wheels provided, into one of which will be placed the names of the four hundred ticket holders, and into the other, the forty-eight tickets drawing prizes, and three hundred and fifty-two blank tickets. The wheels will be revolved in the presence of, and by responsible men, and at each revolution a ticket will be drawn from each wheel, and will continue until all are drawn from both wheels. If the ticket drawn from the prize wheel claims a prize, the holder drawn at the same time from the other wheel will immediately receive it.

This is a fair drawing, and forty-eight ticket-holders are certain to draw a prize.

Responsible men will be present to superintend the drawing.

John H. James, Banker, will sell the tickets and retain the money until the drawing takes place. In case there is no drawing, he will be responsible, and will refund the money to the ticket-holders.

LEE SMITH.

After ten years, with better times and the end of reconstruction, the need for legalized lotteries had passed, and on February 24, 1877, the Legislature passed an act making lotteries illegal, and repealing all conflicting laws.[83]

Eighteen sixty-seven was a banner year for Atlanta's volunteer fire department, and particularly for Company No. 1, which acquired a rebuilt engine house, a steam pumping engine and a fire alarm bell. The latter acquisition was made possible by the proceeds of a "Grand Ladies' Fair," held from April 29 through May 2, 1867.[84]

A general fire alarm bell had been needed in Atlanta for years, but the matter came to a head when Fire Company No. 1 found it necessary, in early 1867, to rebuild its engine house at Broad Street and the railroad tracks in rear of its original site because of the widening of Broad Street. The new building was neither as handsome or commodious as the old, but it had one new feature—a belfry—large enough to accommodate both a watchman or lookout, and a bell. Further, the fire-house was both elevated and centrally located. The long standing need for a bell was now bolstered by every physical requirement. The missing element was the purchase price, approximately $1,000. So it was that the ladies of the town came to the rescue.[85]

An initial meeting of ladies was held early in April to consider the matter of holding a Fair later in the month in order to raise the necessary funds with which to purchase a bell. As a special attendance inducement, it was proposed to hold an election at the Fair. The lady receiving the highest number of votes would be honored by having No. 1's new steamer named for her; the one receiving the second highest vote would have her name inscribed upon the bell; and the gentleman, who must be a member of Council, receiving the highest number of votes would receive a gold-headed cane. Later a fourth prize was added—a baseball bat of ebony, beautifully wrought, would be awarded the most popular baseball team in the city.[86]

The Atlanta *New Era,* reporting April 5th, under the caption "The Fair for the Fire-men," said:

"Who does not say amen to 'That none but the Brave deserve the Fair' and few there be more brave than the gallant firemen. The ladies who have so generously volunteered to aid Atlanta Fire Company No. 1 in getting up the Fair in the aid of the purchase of the fire-alarm bell to be put in the cupola of their new house are respectfully requested to meet at the Bell-Johnson Hall, Saturday fore-noon at 10 o'clock to appoint committees, solicit contributions, and fix the time for the holding of the Fair."

After one postponement on account of rain the meeting was held and an organization was formed. Mrs. W. H. Crisp, wife of the actor, and mother of future Congressman Charles F. Crisp, became President. Miss Emma Latimer, daughter of pioneer citizen Henry B. Latimer, half-sister of Mrs. John Collier, and later Mrs. Dr. John Rudolph, of Gainesville, was elected Secretary. Elected Treasurer, was Mrs. McKeon, later a teacher in the Walker Street School.[87]

The grand occasion opened on schedule and the following day, April 30th, the *Intelligencer* painted the following bright and glowing picture:

"The Fair opened last evening under very favorable auspices at the Broad Street Theater [Bell-Johnson Hall]. At an early hour the visitors began gathering and by ten o'clock the Hall was thronged. The scene presented upon entering the spacious hall, said to be the finest in Georgia, was decidedly brilliant. On each side, extending from the main entrance down to the stage, were tables, literally loaded with all sorts of things both fanciful and substantial. These were presided over by the ladies with that grace and elegance peculiar to the gentler sex. One table seemed the most magnificent of all. Aside from its floral decorations, the arrangement of its articles was such as to produce an effect at once striking to the on-looker. In the center was erected a belfry and in that belfry hung a bell of the most exquisite manufacture, the material being nothing less than CANDY! It was certainly as perfect in shape and general appearance, though far more comely, than those more clamorous of metallic substance. In beautifully candied letters on the exterior were the words 'I'll sound the alarm and the noble firemen will respond.' We noticed hanging from the arch of one of the side tables a similar design, though the bell was wrought of evergreens. The four ballot boxes were handsomely located in pagoda-like structures, enveloped in evergreens in the center of the hall, first box for the steamer; second, name for the bell; third, cane for the councilman; and fourth, baseball club. This novel feature was the source of much merriment and will result in raising much money for the bell. There was also a Post Office, gypsy tent, and fortune-teller. Old crusty bachelors were the recipients of delicately tinted rose colored billet-deux while the gypsys traced the lines in fair and in rough hands the hidden mystery attendant upon the grande passion. We found the Fair full of interest. The merry throng was in a high state of enjoyment. We are confident that the result of last evening's entertainment will foot up handsomely in dollars and cents."

On the last day of the Fair the new steamer, manufactured by the Amoskeag Works, Manchester, New Hampshire, at a cost of $7,000, arrived. It inspired the following comment from the *Intelligencer* on that date:

"The elegant new steamer made her debut and was stationed in front of Bell-Johnson Hall wreathed in rose-garlands. Her rapid journey from New York necessitated a complete toilet arrangement which the polite gentlemen of Company No. 1 were prompt to accomplish, in order to introduce to the public a maiden of comeliness so rare. The steamer remained in front of the Ladies' Fair all afternoon and was the cynosure of all eyes."

The Fair terminated Thursday night, May 2nd, with a "Full Dress Hop," to which the ladies invited the gentlemen. Admission was $1. P. J. Bracken, a member of No. 1 and a locomotive engineer on the W. & A. R. R., requested all firemen to attend in uniform, minus fire-hat. Music for the occasion was furnished by Professor Will F. Clark's Silver Band. Thus the Fair ended in a blaze of glory. A sum totalling $959.35 had been collected for the bell against an estimated cost of $960, which deficit of 65 cents some gallant gentleman doubtless made up.[88]

The contest for the naming of the steamer and the bell resulted in Miss Emma Latimer being entitled to give her name to the former, and Miss Augusta Hill, the latter. Councilman William B. Cox, of the 4th Ward, won the gold-headed cane and the Atlanta Club won the ebony bat by a vote of 71 to 41 for the Gate City Club.[89]

Miss Latimer christened the fire engine with champagne on May 7, but deeming it too bold to have her name displayed in so conspicuous a place, gave it the classical name *Castalia,* that being a crystal spring in the fabled land of Atlantis "where the dwellers never wax old, nor wither with the waning time, but each man keeps that age he had when first he won the fairy clime."[90]

The order for the alarm bell had been sent forward promptly on May 2nd, and specified that it should be 4 feet in diameter at bottom; 35 inches in height; weight between 1,500 and 2,000 pounds; cost between $1,200 and $1,500. It was delivered about August 1st, upon which date, under the heading "Distinguished Arrival," the *Intelligencer* said, in part:

"The alarm bell for Fire Company No. 1 reached the city yesterday by the Macon train and attracted much attention by its beauty and finish. It was shipped from New York to Savannah by the steamer *General Barnes,* and together with the appurtenances for mounting it came through without accident or delay. It was manufactured at West Troy, N. Y., at the bell foundry of the Messrs. Meneely, and appears to be a highly creditable piece of workmanship. Its weight is 1,995 pounds and is moulded of composition somewhat resembling that of the 'nickle-penny.' We can think of nothing else to which its beautiful, clear and highly polished metal can be compared. In plain but neatly raised letters on the front appears the following inscription:

Dedicated to the Public Service
in honor of
Miss Augusta Hill
July, 1867."

On August 8th the bell was placed in the tower amid loud huzzahs and an enlivening strain of music from Professor Clark's Silver Band. Captain John T. Glenn was called upon for an appropriate address, in which he regretted the absence from the city of Miss Hill, since it had been intended that the first notes should be rung out by her fair hands. This pleasant chore was performed by the Presidents of the four fire companies who took hold of the rope in unison.[91]

For the next quarter of a century the celebrated bell announced to the citizens of the city the incidence of fire, indicating the approximate location by numbered strokes for ward numbers. It tolled also the passing of Ben Hill in 1882; Alexander Stephens in 1883; and Henry Grady in 1889. It also told of the departure, in the bloom of young womanhood, of the beautiful Augusta Hill Thompson,[92] for whom it was named.[93]

When the present fire headquarters building was erected in 1892 on Alabama Street, the old bell was removed to the tower of the new building. Shortly thereafter inspectors decided the tower was unsafe, and since watchmen were no longer needed, it would not be rebuilt. Electric signals were installed and the deep-toned bell bowed to the new order. It was moved to Grant Park where it remained mute and an object of curiosity for many years. Still later it was installed atop the training tower of Engine House No. 7 at Whitehall and Oak streets. Here it remains, cemented down, minus clapper and exposed to the elements, an historic reminder of the small town Atlanta used to be.[94]

While Atlanta Fire Company No. 1 was having its hour of glory in 1867, Mechanic's Company No. 2 fostered an important innovation. Since the beginning of volunteer fire-fighting service in Atlanta, back in 1850, all equipment had been pulled by manpower. No. 2 was the first to introduce horsepower, and the event was duly reported by the *Daily Intelligencer* on February 10, 1867, under the heading, "Horses for the Steam Engine."

> "A splendid pair of gray horses, over sixteen hands high, reached the city yesterday, having been purchased by Mechanic Fire Company No. 2, to be attached to their little steamer on the occasion of conflagrations. A beautiful set of harness was also purchased with the horses, the whole costing the sum of $500. We learn that both horses and harness were formerly used in Chattanooga for the same purpose for which No. 2 has secured them. They may be seen at the stables of O. H. Jones, Esq."

For the next half century horses remained as the primary source of motive power for Atlanta's fire departments, both volunteer and professional.

Two of Atlanta's most valued organizations, one religious, the other cultural, had their inception in 1867—the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation and the Young Men's Library Association, forerunner of the present Atlanta Public Library.

Ever since Atlanta reached the proportions of a village in the middle 1840's, good Jewish citizens had made it their home. As often happens, however, in very small communities where there is no Congregation, death and marriage are the two occasions when the absence of a Rabbi is most keenly felt. It was so in Atlanta. Time and time again the difficulties which arose when the presence of a Rabbi was desired presented themselves, for travel and communication were slow in those days. Then, too, there was not always a gracious willingness on the part of Congregations to permit other communities to utilize the services of their religious head. The Atlanta Jewish community was shepherdless. But the need for establishing a Congregation existed and was felt. All that was required to centralize the pent-up eagerness was someone who would take the authority and speak boldly.[95]

The opportunity for securing such cooperation came on January 1, 1867. Dr. Isaac Leeser had been invited to the city to officiate at the wedding of Abram Rosenfeld and Miss Emilie Baer. As was to be expected the entire Jewish community was present. At the supper table the usual toasts were drunk. The Rabbi was called upon for a post-prandial speech. He rose to the occasion and urged his hearers to organize a congregation and engage a Rabbi. His speech was enthusiastically received. It fell on good soil and bore fruit. A meeting was called. The home of Levi Cohen was thrown open for the occassion and the organization was perfected, L. Levy being chosen president. He had shown his fitness for the office on previous occasions, having often conducted the services and in other ways displayed an interest in religious matters.[96]

Charter members of the Congregation were: August Abraham, Moses Frank, Morris Hartman, Jacob Hirshberg, Joseph Hirsch, Leon Lieberman, Louis Rosenfeld, M. Wiseberg, Isaac, Jacob, David and Emanuel Steinheimer, Moses Eiseman, M. B. Eiseman, B. Friedman, S. Jacob, William Rich, S. Mihalovich, W. Silverberg, E. Block, Lewis Alexander, J. L., Levi and Henry Cohen, Solomon Dewald, B. L. Dann, M. Friedenthal, H. Franklin, M. Franklin, B. Fleischel, Joseph Fleischel, L. L. Levy, Martin and Joseph Menko, L. Mansbach, Abram and Sigmund Rosenfeld, M. Sommer, A. E. Shulhafer, S. L. Solomonson, M. Saloshin, W. Silverberg, William Teitlebaum and Samuel Weil.[97]

The Congregation was orthodox in ritual and in practice. Its financial needs were few. The dues were fixed at fifty cents a month "to pay for rent, gas and incidentals." All excess collections were expended in charity.[98]

For the first ten years of its existence the Congregation was very ubiquitous. After meeting for a number of services in the home of Levi Cohen, a room was rented above what was then known as Dodd's Corner, at Whitehall and Mitchell streets. Thence the Congregation wended its way north a half a block to Concordia Hall, 92 Whitehall Street; thence northwest a couple of blocks to a hall on Broad street near Alabama. Then followed a move south to Whitehall and Peters Street, now Trinity Avenue.[99]

Meanwhile, in 1869, the services of Rabbi D. Burgheim had been secured. After a year's tenure he was succeeded by Rabbi Benjamin A. Bonheim, who gave way in 1874 to Rabbi Henry Gersoni. It was during his tenure that the Congregation purchased a lot at the southeast corner of Garnett and Forsyth streets in 1875, whereupon was erected the first synagogue, it being finished and dedicated August 31, 1877, by which time the Congregation could be described as only mildly orthodox.[100]

In 1895 Rabbi David Marx of Temple Emanuel, Birmingham, Alabama, accepted a call from Atlanta, and entered upon his duties on September 6th. By this time the tide of reform was at full flow. The Congregation went on record in favor of the observance of only one day of the holidays.[101]

On Monday, April 28, 1902, the last day of Pesach, farewell services were said in the original synagogue. On Friday evening, September 12th, and Saturday morning of the 13th, a new temple at the southeast corner of Pryor and Richardson streets was consecrated to the worship of God and the service of humanity.[102]

The third and present temple of the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation was dedicated with expressive ceremonies on October 16th, 17th and 18th, 1931, at which time Dr. David Marx was still the beloved pastor. This temple, one of the most beautiful buildings of its kind in the South, is located atop an eminence on Peachtree Street opposite Spring, the site having been previously occupied by the residence of the late Colonel William Lawson Peel.[103]

Pioneer citizens William Kay, James McPherson, Michael Lynch, William H. Jones, Benjamin B. Crew and J. J. and S. P. Richards, booksellers all, had, at various times since the late 1840's, undertaken to keep local citizens inclined to reading, supplied with the necessary material. Though there may have been some private libraries of modest proportions in ante-bellum and immediate post-bellum Atlanta, there had never been either a public or semi-public library in the city.

The first effort to alleviate this undesirable situation was exposed to the light of day by publication of the following letter in the Atlanta *Daily New Era* for December 28, 1866:

"Mr. Editor: We wish to call the attention of young men and of our citizens generally to a new project that is being started, and which we think will be a very desirable one, should it succeed. It has been suggested that a reading-room for the young men would be that which is absolutely needed for many of them who feel that want of something pleasant for these long winter evenings, and at the same time be a benefit to them. Other cities have their reading-rooms and libraries. The former, at least, is within our reach, and soon we may have a library. Will you, both young men and others, think of this matter, and help us all you can by the aid of your subscriptions as well as by your influence?

(Signed) MANY YOUNG MEN."[104]

Credit for the origination of the idea locally, of a subscription library for young men must go to Darwin G. Jones (1839-1926), then a bank teller for the Georgia National Bank on Alabama Street. Jones, a native of Michigan, who had recently moved to Atlanta from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, had seen such a library in successful operation there. Despite encouragement from the press, it was July, 1867, before a meeting was held. Jones, meanwhile, had enlisted the aid of Henry Jackson and E. Y. Clarke, both young lawyers, and a meeting was called for the night of July 30th in the office of architect William H. Parkins above the Georgia National Bank. Present at the first meeting were: Albert Hape, J. R. Barrick, Darwin G. Jones, C. P. Freeman, E. Y. Clarke, Asa R. Watson, John R. Kendrick, William H. Parkins, Henry Jackson, Ed. H. Jones, W. D. Luckie, and C. H. Davidge.[105]

It was unanimously voted to form a library association and Henry Jackson and E. Y. Clarke were appointed a committee to draft a constitution. They studied the constitutions of successful libraries elsewhere, taking the Mercantile Library of New York, and the Young Men's Library Associations of Milwaukee and Cleveland as models. At a meeting held on August 12th, the constitution was submitted and adopted. The preamble declared that the purpose of the organization was facilitation of mutual intercourse, extension of information, the promotion of a spirit of useful inquiry and the qualification of its members for proper discharge of their duties and the furtherance of every means of mutual improvement.[106]

The name adopted was the Young Men's Library Association of the City of Atlanta. Membership was open to any young man in any honorable pursuit who might be approved by the Board of Directors. There were to be three classes of members, active, life and honorary. The active members paid semi-annual dues of $2 in advance, and could vote and hold office. The life members were made such by the payment of $25. Honorary members were persons of distinction who might be elected by the board. Active members were also given the privilege of commuting their dues for life by paying $50. There was to be a librarian, bonded for $2,000 in favor of the association.[107]

At the next meeting, 47 members signed the constitution and the following officers were elected for the first year: President, Henry Jackson; Vice-President, Darwin Jones; Secretary, C. P. Freeman; Treasurer, W. D. Luckie; Directors: E. Y. Clarke, A. R. Watson, H. T. Phillips, E. B. Pond, Albert Hape, F. O. Rudy, W. M. Williams, J. R. Barrick and L. H. Orme. The board held its first meeting on August 20th at which necessary committees were appointed. A reading room was rented for $3 per month on Alabama Street just east of the present Connally Building corner. Fifteen dollars was spent for shelving and gifts were invited. The first was a set of the *American Cyclopedia* from Colonel L. P. Grant. A concert to raise money for books was next undertaken, with Mrs. P. H. Snook and Mrs. Lewis Clarke as singers.[108]

In this connection diarist S. P. Richards, long-time member of the Second Baptist Church choir, recorded sourly on September 13, 1867:

> "Sallie and I went to a 'Grand Operatic Concert' tonight at Davis Hall given in behalf of the 'Young Men's Library Association' by Professor Ludwig Harmsen and others. The large hall was nearly filled and the music was good. I was urged to sing at this concert by Dr. [Albert] Hape, one of the Committee of Arrangements, and after consenting, heard nothing more in reference to it, which I call rather cavalier kind of treatment—though I was glad to get off from it. . . ."

Nevertheless, several hundred dollars were raised by the concert, and the board was encouraged to undertake a series of lectures. Admiral Raphael Semmes, General D. H. Hill, Rev. H. S. Lamar, Governor Zebulon B. Vance of North Carolina, and Bret Harte were among the celebrities brought to the city during the first few years. While it was a financial struggle to carry on, the Y. M. L. A. grew in membership and in books. By May, 1868, there were 150 members and 760 volumes. One year later these figures had increased to 250 and 1,150, respectively.[109]

Colonel L. P. Grant, elected the first honorary member, came to the aid of the association with a gift of $300 which was forthwith spent for books. Although membership was at first restricted to young men, by 1873 young women were also admitted, and Miss Emma Abbott became the first of her sex to apply for commutation of dues for life. William A. Hemphill was the first man to do so. As early as 1870 the mayor and council were asked for an appropriation, but the request was turned down. So additional funds continued to be raised by a succession of fairs, bazaars, concerts, lectures and spelling matches. The centennial of the Declaration of Independence, in 1876, was observed by a tea party with the proper money-raising accompaniments. Chief event of the occasion was a vote for the most popular railroad conductor on the local railroads. Winner Fred D. Bush, of the Atlanta & Richmond Air Line, was toasted in champagne and presented several weeks later with a gold ticket-punch costing $40.50.[110]

By the 1880's, the Y. M. L. A. had become firmly established as an integral part of the social and cultural life of the city. Continued growth necessitated more space. Several moves were therefore made. About 1870 the original quarters were abandoned in favor of larger rooms in the Granite Block, at the northwest corner of Broad Street and the railroad tracks. When the three-story brick building, now known as the Ivan Allen-Marshall Building, at the southwest corner of Marietta and Forsyth streets, was built in 1876, the Y. M. L. A. moved thither. Then, in 1881, it secured its own building, on the south side of Decatur between Pryor Street and Central Avenue, which was made possible by a loan from Senator Joseph E. Brown. This building, now designated as 45-47 Decatur Street and occupied by the Jacobs Sales Company, is standing and the letters Y. M. L. A. can still be seen on the facade.[111]

In May, 1893, came an opportunity to sell the Decatur Street property for a good figure, $81,000, and to purchase the former William Markham home, on the present site of the 101 Marietta Street Building, for $40,000. The trade was consummated and, until its merger with the newly established Carnegie Library at the turn of the century, the Y. M. L. A. remained in the Markham home.[112]

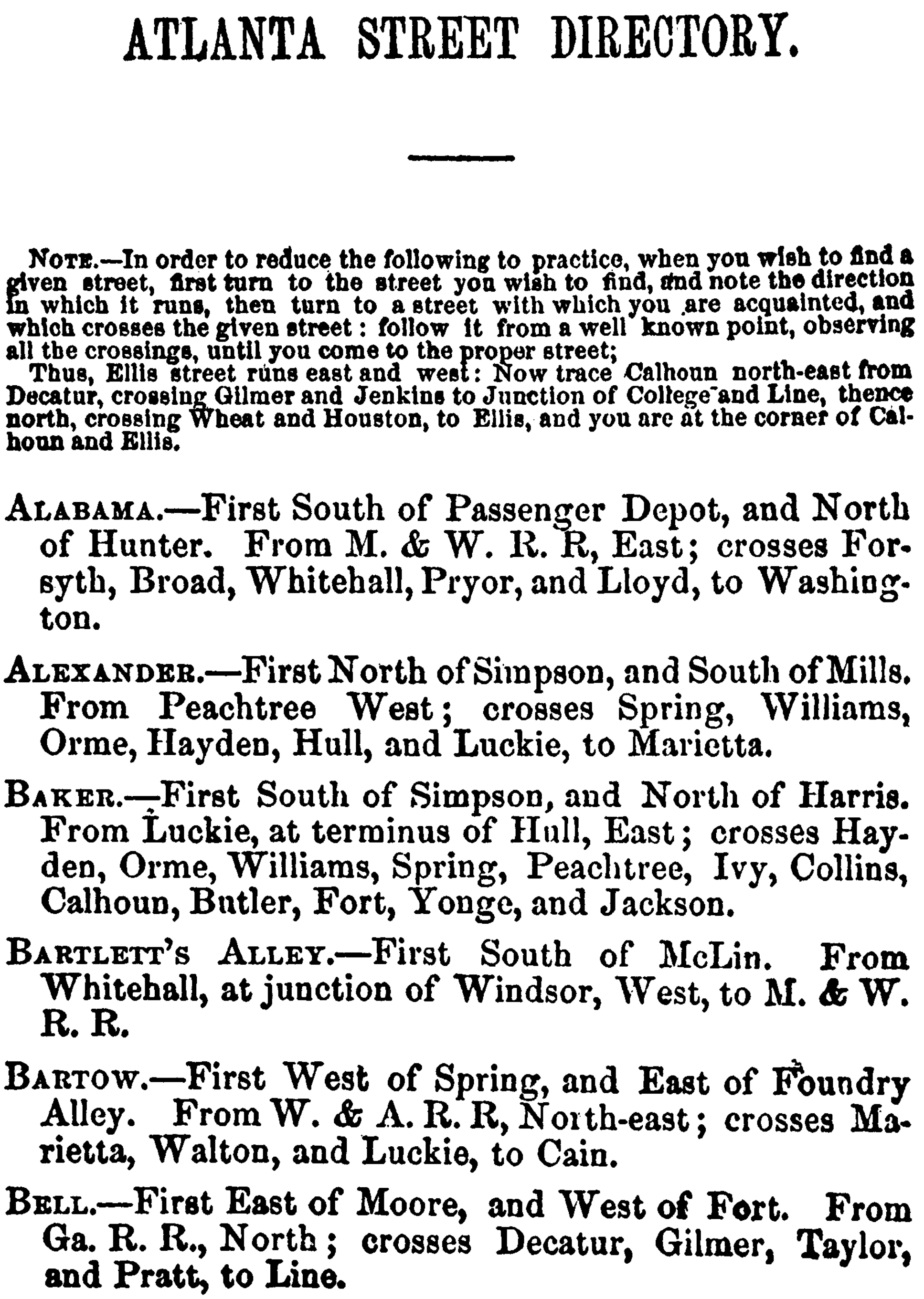
The first librarian of the Y. M. L. A. was Augustus L. Grant, appointed in 1867. After serving a few months he resigned to supervise the removal of the remains of Confederate soldiers buried all over the country to the section in Oakland Cemetery set aside for them. John W. Pearce followed for a brief term. Then came Charles Herbst, an ex-Confederate soldier from Covington, Kentucky. His seven-year term ended in 1876 when he was removed by the directors because of his indiscreet annotations on the library books in regard to the financial standing of members and because of poor bookkeeping. E. B. Chamberlain held the post from 1876 to 1879; Charles E. Harman, from 1879 to 1881, and Allie C. Billups from 1881 to 1882. Then the ladies took over. First, in 1882, was Lida A. Field, a native of Dahlonega, and the author of a school history of the United States. She resigned in 1889 to teach in the Walker Street School, and subsequently at the newly established Agnes Scott Institute in Decatur. Miss Field was succeeded by Miss Fanny Wallace, who was in turn succeeded by her sister Anne in 1898. Anne Wallace became the first librarian of the Carnegie Library.[113]

During its life of some thirty-three years the Y. M. L. A. was fortunate in the caliber of men who served as its president. Following Henry Jackson and beginning in 1874 they were, together with their occupations at time of serving:

John H. Flynn, master mechanic, W. & A. R. R., and wholesale grocer.
Henry Hillyer, lawyer.
Benjamin H. Hill, Jr., lawyer.
Donald M. Bain, hardware merchant.
Julius L. Brown, lawyer.
Hoke Smith, lawyer.
Charles E. Harman, general Southern freight agent, W. & A. R. R.
Nathaniel P. T. Finch, editor, *Constitution.*
Thomas E. Walker, claim agent, Southern Railway and Steamship Association.
Howard Van Epps, lawyer.
William A. Hemphill, business manager and treasurer, Constitution Publishing Company.
Rev. George L. Chaney, pastor, Unitarian Church.
William M. Slaton, teacher, Boys' High School.
Frank H. Richardson, editor, *Journal.*
Charles A. Read, lawyer.
George R. De Saussure, banking and insurance.
James R. Nutting, banking and insurance.
Eugene M. Mitchell, lawyer.[114]

Some new fare, largely temporary, was offered the reading public of Atlanta in 1867. The Atlanta *Mirror of Life,* devoted to romance, wit and amusement, and edited by J. F. Shecut, appeared in August, but soon withered on the vine. At about the same time W. L. Scruggs and J. B. Dumble established the Atlanta *Daily Opinion,* an afternoon paper of Republican sympathies. It supported the Radical Reconstruction measures favored by Congress, and folded in 1868.[115]

Since the publication of Williams' Atlanta City Directory of 1859-1860 no one had made a succeeding effort. Indeed, the war and its aftermath gave rise to so much destruction and fluctuation in the population that such an effort would have been largely fruitless. By early 1867, however, it occurred to Valen-



ATLANTA STREET DIRECTORY.

NOTE.—In order to reduce the following to practice, when you wish to find a given street, first turn to the street you wish to find, and note the direction in which it runs, then turn to a street with which you are acquainted, and which crosses the given street: follow it from a well known point, observing all the crossings, until you come to the proper street;

Thus, Ellis street runs east and west: Now trace Calhoun north-east from Decatur, crossing Gilmer and Jenkins to Junction of College and Line, thence north, crossing Wheat and Houston, to Ellis, and you are at the corner of Calhoun and Ellis.

ALABAMA.—First South of Passenger Depot, and North of Hunter. From M. & W. R. R, East; crosses Forsyth, Broad, Whitehall, Pryor, and Lloyd, to Washington.

ALEXANDER.—First North of Simpson, and South of Mills. From Peachtree West; crosses Spring, Williams, Orme, Hayden, Hull, and Luckie, to Marietta.

BAKER.—First South of Simpson, and North of Harris. From Luckie, at terminus of Hull, East; crosses Hayden, Orme, Williams, Spring, Peachtree, Ivy, Collins, Calhoun, Butler, Fort, Yonge, and Jackson.

BARTLETT'S ALLEY.—First South of McLin. From Whitehall, at junction of Windsor, West, to M. & W. R. R.

BARTOW.—First West of Spring, and East of Foundry Alley. From W. & A. R. R, North-east; crosses Marietta, Walton, and Luckie, to Cain.

BELL.—First East of Moore, and West of Fort. From Ga. R. R., North; crosses Decatur, Gilmer, Taylor, and Pratt, to Line.

(From an original in collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

A page from Atlanta Street Directory, as published in Barnwell's "City Directory and Stranger's Guide" for 1867 tine T. Barnwell (1835-1921), a native of Hall County, Georgia, and subsequently a music teacher in Atlanta, that a directory was not only feasible but needed.[116] His efforts produced a modest little volume measuring five by six and three-quarter inches and nearly an inch thick. Undoubtedly useful to local citizens when current, the book remains today as a rare historical document and probably the best picture of the city extant for the period between the end of the war and 1870, when the next directory appeared. Its title page, herewith reproduced, serves as an introduction to its contents:

BARNWELL'S
ATLANTA CITY DIRECTORY
AND
Stranger's Guide:
Also, a General Fireman's,
Church, Masonic, and Odd-Fellow's Record

Volume I

Compiled (Principally in January) for the Year 1867

By V. T. Barnwell

ATLANTA:
Intelligencer Book and Job Office
1867

Two of Atlanta's oldest and best-known business firms, The Atlantic Brewery, now owned by the Atlantic Company, and Rich's, Inc., were born in 1867.

The brewery holds the local business record for having occupied one site for the longest period of time—87 years. It has, in fact, never been anywhere else, and was founded at the corner of Courtland (then Collins) and Harris streets by Egidius Fechter, a native of Germany, and Edward Mercer, originally from Dublin, Ireland, as the "City Brewery." Nine years later, in 1876, it was incorporated as the Atlanta City Brewing Company with E. Fechter as president; Joseph Fleishel, treasurer, and Emil Langgesser, secretary. It was a day of modest salaries. The secretary and the treasurer got monthly stipends of $75, while the brewery superintendent received $60. The treasurer, however, was provided with a horse and buggy for business use. By 1880 the capital stock had grown to $65,000 and in that year a fire destroyed the original wooden buildings. They were soon replaced by the present brick and stone structures over the ancient storage cellars, and the firm bought an ice factory to supply its customers with free ice. During these early years the company manufactured draught beer exclusively, which was delivered in barrels and kegs by horse-drawn dray.[117]

In September, 1889, the late Albert Steiner came from Dothan, Alabama, to join the firm as secretary-treasurer at $2,000 per year. He became president in 1897, a post he held until his death in 1919. He left a sizable portion of his fortune to found the Steiner Cancer Clinic, which is operated in connection with Grady Hospital.[118]

It is hard to imagine today that the sprawling department store empire known as Rich's, Inc., was once housed in a rough-hewn one-story wooden building measuring twenty by seventy-five feet, fronting upon an unpaved street. Yet such was the fact.[119]

Morris Rich (1847-1928), a native of Kashau, Hungary, came to America at 13 with an older brother, William, penniless and almost without education. His first regular job in this country was that of clerk in a small mercantile store in Cleveland, Ohio. He displayed a knack for merchandising, and by the time he was 18 was able to start small stores of his own, first in Chattanooga and later in Albany, Georgia. As he progressed in business so he progressed, by his own efforts, in education. In the spring of 1867 he was attracted to Atlanta by the sheer activity and bustle of the place. The fact that brother William was already here and in the dry goods business as William Rich & Company, was probably a factor in the decision to cast his lot with Atlanta.[120]

In May, with $1,000 borrowed from William, Morris Rich struck out for himself and rented a little store at 36 Whitehall Street, a short distance south of Alabama on the east side. The young proprietor promptly covered the gaping mud holes in front, left by the spring rains, with loose planks, in order to protect the footwear of his feminine clientele. Though the stock was meager, customers found in the new store a spirit of friendliness and sound value for their money. Rich began business in an era of barter and trade, when buyer and seller matched wits, but he firmly set forth the fact that his goods had one price to all, based on value and a proper margin of profit. This plan paid off and has been continued through the years. Fifty-cent corsets were the best sellers of the day. Hose were 25 cents a pair, silk ones being but a fanciful dream. Hoop skirts with and without bustles were in great demand, while masculine taste turned largely to calfskin boots.[121]

For the first few years Morris Rich had an associate, Abel Titlebaum. Then in 1871 a younger brother, Emanuel Rich (1849-1897), became an associate of Morris and the firm became M. Rich & Company. Business increased steadily and during the following year the original store was abandoned in favor of larger quarters diagonally across the street on the corner of Hunter. In 1876 the two brothers were joined by a third, Daniel (1843-1920), and the triumvirate, so long to carry on together, was completed.[122]

The brothers Rich, now styling themselves M. Rich and Brothers, opened a new store in 1881 at 54-56 Whitehall Street, a short distance north of Hunter, heralded as the "handsomest store in Atlanta." Here, for the first time, two whole floors were utilized. The interior decorations were done in black and gold and elaborate gas chandeliers hung from the ceilings. This store boasted the first plateglass show windows in town. Prior to that time show windows consisted of cheap, small-paned windows covered by heavy shutters at night to keep out thieves and marauders.[123]

Steady growth necessitated some significant changes in 1901. The firm was incorporated that year as M. Rich & Bros. Co. Floor space was increased by a six-story annex. Elevator service was installed for the first time and the store was departmentalized. This last innovation brought forth heated complaint from numerous customers, accustomed through the years to being waited upon by their favorite clerk in any part of the store. However, it was patiently explained that the more specialized service would redound to the benefit of customers, and in time the innovation was accepted.[124]

Finally, in the spring of 1924, after fifty-seven years on Whitehall Street, the store moved to the nucleus of its present location at Broad and Alabama streets—to a new six-story $1,500,000 structure of steel, Indiana limestone and Normandy tile. In 1929, the year following the death of founder Morris Rich, the present name, Rich's, Incorporated, was adopted. Walter H. Rich, son of Emanuel and nephew of Morris, had succeeded to the presidency of the firm in 1926 upon the retirement from that office of the latter.[125]

The great program of expansion, resulting in the present mammoth department store, went forward under the presidency of Walter Rich and, since his death in 1947, under his successor Richard H. Rich, a grandson of the founder. Others who have helped to provide Atlanta with the largest store south of the Potomac River were the late Lucian York, merchandiser extraordinary; David H. Strauss, late financial wizard of the organization, and Frank H. Neely, Oscar R. Strauss, Jr., and Ben R. Gordon, in addition to Mr. Rich, present officers of the firm. The store has remained throughout its 87 years Atlanta owned and managed.

One of the best known of Atlanta's business establishments at the time Morris Rich opened his first store in 1867, was the gun shop of Heinz and Berkele, also on Whitehall Street. It was founded in 1854 by Charles Heinz (1824-1906), a native of Germany, who rendered valiant service during the war in the manufacture and repair of Confederate rifles and small arms. Shortly after the war Heinz' brother-in-law, John Berkele (1836-1912), also a native of Germany and later of the jewelry firm of Maier and Berkele, became associated in the shop. The scope of the activity carried on by the Messrs. Heinz and Berkele is indicated by the following newspaper advertisement of 1867:[126]

HEINZ & BERKELE

Sign of the "Big Gun," Whitehall Street, Atlanta, Ga.

DEALERS IN

Guns, Rifles, Pistols, Carpenters' Tools,
and Light Hardware

Would call the attention of the public to their full stock of Men's and Boys' Single and Double Guns, fine and common Rifles; Colt's, Smith & Wesson's, Remington's, Marston's, Sharp's, Bacon's, and Cooper's Self-Cocking Derringer, and common Single and Double Pistols; Elsey's, Cox & Hick's Gun, Pistol and Musket Caps; Powder Flasks, Shot Belts, and Game Bags of all sizes and qualities; Metalic Colt's and other Cartridges; Pistol Belts and Holsters; Eley's and other Oiled Gun Wads, and everything in the sporting line.

We would especially call the attention of Gunsmiths and others to our full assortment of Material, such as Gun Locks, Triggers, Gun Mountings, Tubes, Colt's Pistol Parts, and everything belonging to Guns, in the rough or finished state, at wholesale and retail.

WORKING DEPARTMENT

We are practical Gunsmiths and Repairers of Guns, Pistols, Locks, etc. Special attention given to Bell Hanging, Repairing Safes and Safe Locks; in fact, everything that can be done in a Jobbing Shop.

LOOK FOR THE "BIG GUN"

After the death of founder Charles Heinz in 1906 the firm continued under his sons John M. and Charles, Jr., on Alabama Street until 1928, when it closed a career of seventy-four years.[127]

Atlanta's first soda fountain, or certainly its first elaborate one, made its bow in the spring of 1867 as a feature of the drug store of Redwine and Fox (Columbus L. Redwine and Amos Fox), corner Whitehall and Alabama streets. It was announced by a news article in the *Daily Intelligencer* for May 12, 1867, captioned:

"The Arctic Soda Fount of Redwine & Fox"

"The popular drug house, on the corner of Alabama and Whitehall streets, was a point of considerable attention yesterday afternoon, on the occasion of testing the merits of their new elegant marble and silver mounted ARCTIC SODA FOUNT, which is by far the most beautiful thing of the kind ever seen in Georgia. The whole arrangement, for utility and neatness, is a rare specimen of mechanism, and the cool, delicious beverage gushing therefrom is in full keeping with the name chosen for it—that of 'Arctic.' The syrups used are manufactured from the fruits by Dr. Redwine and are therefore pure and highly flavored. Altogether, the new 'Arctic' arrangement is a decided 'success,' and was so pronounced by the large number of visitors who were attracted to the spot yesterday afternoon. Our friend Mr. Fox very happily personated the 'Dr. Kane'[128] necessary to the occasion."

Some of S. P. Richards' diary entries for 1867 are expressive of life in the community during that first year of radical reconstruction:

"February 14. St. Valentine has not had due regard paid to him this season, judging from our sales of the missives tender or comic. They have gone but slowly."

"April 26. The Odd Fellows had a celebration today and I was one of the singers upon the interesting occasion. Dr. [Samuel] Bard, of the 'New Era' made a long speech in very bad taste I thought, and with which I was considerably bored."

"May 5. This afternoon all the schools in the city met at Mr. Davis's Hall to sing and listen to Rev. Dr. [Alexander] Means address to the children. This large hall was crowded with nearly 2000 children, and the speaker gave us a politico-scientific grandiloquent address, every word of which was beyond the capacity of children and very unsuited to the object."

"May 31. Our Sunday School [2nd Baptist] and friends thereof went on an excursion by Rail Road to Kennesaw Mountain today, the R. R. supt. having kindly furnished free transportation. The weather has been fine and we anticipated a fine time, but as usual the pleasure was more in anticipation than in reality. It is not nearly as nice a place to picnic at as Stone Mountain and the cars were crowded excessively. All were glad to get back home safely with no other detriment than fatigue, dirt and red bugs, from which last nuisance the petticoat folks suffered most."

"July 4. The 'Glorious Fourth' has been celebrated here today chiefly by a crowd of negroes and the organization of a Union Radical Convention mostly composed of colored delegates and renegade white men. At night I went to Trinity Meth' Church to hear Bishop George Pierce, the great gun of that denomination."

"Oct. 31. Elections have been in progress throughout Georgia for three days on the Convention question and it has been done almost entirely by negro votes."

"Dec. 25. Christmas Day—and great rejoicing among the little folks this morning as they investigated the stockings that their good old, yet mysterious friend Santa Claus had filled during the night. Poor as the people pretend to be—and as many really are—they have found considerable to spend on Christmas. Our trade was pretty good yesterday, considering the smallness of our Christmas stock, but Jack the Toy dealer [Geo. W. Jack] did a heavy business. . . ."

Several pioneer and useful citizens of the Atlanta area died during 1867. Oldest of the group was John McWilliams, founder of the well-known De Kalb County and East Atlanta family bearing that name. He was born in Ireland about 1780 and came to the Panthersville District of De Kalb on Christmas eve, 1827. For forty years he was a substantial farmer of that district. His sons were John G., Alexander, Robert, Samuel, David and James, the latter having been the victim of Atlanta's first homicide in 1848. The late John W. McWilliams, East Atlanta merchant and patriarch, was a grandson. The old gentleman died in January, 1867, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the ancient cedar-shaded cemetery of Clifton Methodist Church in the Mills District of De Kalb. The Masonic Lodge of Decatur, of which the deceased was a charter member, conducted the funeral services.[129]

On February 27, 1867, at the drug store of Massey, Swanson & Co. on Roark's corner, Whitehall and Mitchell streets, occurred an unfortunate encounter between two life-long friends, Clement Clay Howell and Clement Clay Green, which resulted in the death of the former. Both were good citizens, born in the same year, 1829, reared in the same neighborhood and named for the same man, Governor Clement C. Clay of Alabama. They were playmates when boys and intimately connected in their business relations when men. Howell was a son of Isaac Howell, of Cobb County, and Green, of Alston H. Green of De Kalb. The respective fathers established and jointly operated, as long as they lived, the Green and Howell's Ferry across the Chattahoochee River. The sons inherited the ferry and the argument that resulted in the death of Howell is said to have had to do with the ferry.[130]

At any rate the two men got into a heated argument in the drug store about 2 P.M. Hot words led to blows and a fist fight ensued. Green finally drew a repeater and fired a couple of shots without effect inside the store. The scuffle was then transferred to the street, where another ineffective shot or two were fired. Here the parties clinched, and while in this position Green fired again, the ball passing through Howell's head, killing him instantly. Green made no attempt to escape and asked Dr. R. J. Massey what he should do. The doctor advised him to wait in the store, which Green did until a police officer arrived.[131]

Howell, a lawyer and former city clerk of Atlanta, was buried in the family cemetery across the river in Cobb County, atop a hill near the historic old ferry of which he was part owner. His grave is substantially marked.[132]

Green was indicted for murder and tried in Fulton Superior Court before Judge Hiram Warner at the April term, 1867. An impressive array of legal talent appeared in the case. The prosecution was conducted by Solicitor-General William H. Hulsey, John L. Hopkins and Tidwell & Fears. For the defense were Gartrell & Hammond, A. W. Hammond & Son, William Ezzard, Collier & Hoyt and Hill & Candler. The jury, of which pioneer citizen Joseph Willis was foreman, brought in a verdict of "not guilty."[133]

Green was of course released, and during the remainder of his life lived a useful citizen of the community, serving as a deputy sheriff of Fulton County for many years. He died in 1889 and is buried in a substantially marked grave in the Green family cemetery near the old ferry on the Fulton side of the river.[134] Thus, in death as in life, Clement Clay Howell and Clement Clay Green are neighbors, resting upon their respective hilltops with the turbid Chattahoochee flowing between them.

Other less spectacular departures from the land of the living during 1867 included Captain Frank M. Johnston, 40, in August. He was a native of Scotland, founder of Atlanta Hook & Ladder [Fire] Company No. 1, and a member of the hardware firm of McNaught, Ormand & Co. Joel Kelsey, Sr., age 73, native of New Milford, Connecticut, and one of the original settlers of Atlanta, died October 22nd while visiting a daughter in Jefferson, Texas. He was the first bookkeeper for the Georgia Railroad in Atlanta and was also one of the three original ruling elders of the First Presbyterian Church in 1848. Dr. Benjamin O. Jones, 66, pioneer Atlanta physician, died in December at his plantation in Fayette County, from whence he had originally come to Atlanta about 1850. Both Captain Johnston and Dr. Jones are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[135]

Eighteen sixty-seven was, in spite of radical reconstruction, a good year for Atlanta insofar as sheer physical activity was concerned. Its rapid growth was exciting the envy of less vigorous communities, some of which feeling found expression in print. The editor of the Milledgeville *Federal Union* felt constrained to write on February 12, 1867:

"Atlanta is certainly a fast place in every sense of the word, and our friends in Atlanta are a fast people. They live fast and they die fast. They make money fast and they spend it fast. They build houses fast, and they burn them down fast. . . . They have the largest public buildings, and the most of them, and they pass the most resolutions of any people, ancient or modern. To a stranger the whole city seems to be running on wheels, and all of the inhabitants continually blowing off steam. In short, everything and everybody in and about the place seems to be moving very fast except Mayor Williams, who, the last we heard from him, was steadfast and immovable."[136]

NOTES—CHAPTER 45

[1] *City Directory,* 1867, p. 54.
[2] *Annual Reports,* City of Atlanta, 1899, p. 582.
[3] *City Directory,* 1867, p. 54.
[4] *Ibid.,* 55.
[5] Reed, *Atlanta,* 253.
[6] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 17. Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 261.
[7] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 171.
[8] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 363.
[9] Reed, *Atlanta,* 218; Avery, *History of Georgia,* 363, *ff.*

[10] Reed, *Atlanta,* 218.

[11] *Ibid.,* 218, *ff.*

[12] *Ibid.,* 228.

[13] *Ibid.,* 229.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* IV, 282; Miller, ed. *Photographic History of the Civil War,* II, 15.

[16] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* IV, 282.

[17] Reed, *Atlanta,* 225.

[18] *Ibid.*

[19] *Ibid.,* 226-227.

[20] Martin, *Atlanta,* I, 616.

[21] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 101-102.

[22] Reed, *Atlanta,* 229; City Directories, 1859, 1867.

[23] Reed, *Atlanta,* 29; Coulter, *The South During Reconstruction,* 132.

[24] Reed, *Atlanta,* 231-232.

[25] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 187.

[26] *Ibid.,* 176-177.

[27] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 102.

[28] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 263.

[29] Reed, *Atlanta,* 243.

[30] U. S. Census, Fulton County, Georgia, 1860.

[31] U. S. Census, De Kalb County, Georgia, 1860.

[32] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 55-56.

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] Based upon a study, by the present writer, of contemporary city directories and maps; plus a first-hand knowledge of the city.

[35] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 129-130. Miss Thompson was writing in 1915.

[36] *Ibid.,* 130.

[37] Myron W. Adams, *A History of Atlanta University, 1865-1929* (Atlanta, Ga., 1930), 1.

[38] *Ibid.,* 2.

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] *Ibid.,* 3; for additional information about this building, *supra,* Chapter 39.

[41] Adams, *Atlanta University,* 3.

[42] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* V, 380.

[43] Adams, *Atlanta University,* 5.

[44] *Ibid.,* 5-6; Minutes S. C., Fulton, Book E, 564.

[45] Adams, *Atlanta University,* 11.

[46] Omitted.

[47] Adams, *Atlanta University,* 79.

[48] *Ibid.,* 84; "Garrett's Necrology."

[49] Adams, *Atlanta University,* 12, 15, 84.

[50] *Ibid.,* 19.

[51] *Ibid.,* 12, 17.

[52] *Ibid.,* 17-18.

[53] *Ibid.,* 14, 21, 55.

[54] Eugene M. Mitchell, "Queer Place Names in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* V (April, 1931), 23-24; 79 *Ga. Reports,* 792.

[55] "Garrett's Necrology;" *Atlanta Intelligencer,* Feb. 25, 1867.

[56] Sarah Huff, *My 80 Years in Atlanta,* 43.

[57] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1867, Book E.

[58] *Ibid.*

[59] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1867, Book D.

[60] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1867, Book E.

[61] Orr, *History of Education in Georgia,* 183.

[62] *Ibid.*

[63] *Ibid.,* 184.

[64] *Ibid.*

[65] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Jan. 1, 1867.

[66] And originally the site of Hardy Ivy's pioneer cabin.

[67] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Jan. 23, 1867.

[68] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 102.

[69] Two copies owned by Atlanta Historical Society.

[70] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 103.

[71] *Ibid.*

[72] Based upon a comparison between the street names in *Barnwell's City Directory* of 1867, and *Hanleiter's City Directory* map of 1870.

[73] Benjamin B. Touchstone then lived on the North side of the present Gordon Road a short distance west of the present Mozley Drive intersection.

[74] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1867, Book E.

[75] Feb. 23, 1867.

[76] Thereby placing it at the present intersection of Peters, Park, and Whitehall streets.

[77] *Ga. Laws,* 1868, p. 122; *House Journal,* 1868, p. 192; Cornelia E. Cooper, "History of West End," *A.H.B.,* XXXI (Jan. 1947), 75.
[78] Fulton County Deed Book K, 174.
[79] *Hopkins's Atlas,* 1878, Plate N; *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Feb. 29, 1868.
[80] Originator of Southern Memorial Day.
[81] Jessie Folsom Stockbridge, "When Atlanta Had a Lottery," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 17, 1930.
[82] *Ibid.*
[83] *Ga. Laws,* 1877, p. 112.
[84] Elizabeth Hanleiter McCallie, "A Grand Ladies' Fair," *A.H.B.,* XVI (Jan. 1939), 40-54.
[85] *Ibid.*
[86] *Ibid.*
[87] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."
[88] McCallie, "Grand Ladies' Fair," *loc. cit.*
[89] *Ibid.*
[90] *Ibid.*
[91] *Ibid.*
[92] Augusta Hill, daughter of Hampton W., and Eudocia Lane Hill, became the first wife of Joseph Thompson, Jr., a son of the noted Dr. Joseph Thompson, of Atlanta.
[93] McCallie, *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology."
[94] McCallie, *loc. cit.;* personal knowledge of the present writer.
[95] Rabbi David Marx, "A History of the Jews of Atlanta," *The Reform Advocate* (Nov. 4, 1911), 19.
[96] *Ibid.*
[97] *Ibid.,* 21.
[98] *Ibid.*
[99] *Ibid.*
[100] *Ibid.*
[101] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's Pioneer Churches and Who Built Them," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 2, 1936.
[102] *Ibid.*
[103] *Ibid.*
[104] Quoted in Alma Hill Jamison, "Development of the Library in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XVII (April, 1939), 98.
[105] *Ibid.,* 99; "Garrett's Necrology."
[106] Jamison, *loc. cit.*
[107] *Ibid.,* 100.
[108] *Ibid.*
[109] *Ibid.*
[110] *Ibid.,* 101; *City Directory,* 1876.
[111] Jamison, *loc. cit.;* City Directories, 1870-1881.
[112] Jamison, *loc. cit.,* 103; *Cf.* James R. Nutting, "The Carnegie Library of Atlanta," *The City Builder* (Nov. 1924), 7; "When Atlanta Rocked and Read," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 24, 1935; Ed. L. Grant, "When Town Ball Was the Big Game Here," *loc. cit.,* Mar. 9, 1924; Medora Field Perkerson, "Spelling Bees and Brides at Library," *loc. cit.,* Nov. 2, 1924; Elinor Hillyer, "Spelling Bees to Buy Books," *loc. cit.,* Oct. 9, 1927.
[113] Jamison, *loc. cit.,* 109-110; City Directories, 1870-1890.
[114] City Directories, 1874-1900.
[115] Feldman, "Checklist Atlanta Newspapers," 37-38.
[116] "Garrett's Necrology."
[117] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 5, 1942; City Directories, 1870-1877; "Garrett's Necrology."
[118] *Alanta Constitution,* Jan. 5, 1942; "Garrett's Necrology."
[119] Richard Joel, "A Brief History of Rich's, *A.H.B.,* XXVII (Jan. 1942), 5.
[120] *Ibid.; Atlanta Journal,* June 29, 1928; *Atlanta Constitution,* June 30, 1928; *City Directory,* 1867, p. 226.
[121] Joel, *loc. cit.,* 6; *Atlanta Journal,* June 29, 1928.
[122] Joel, *loc. cit.,* 6; City Directories, 1870-1877.
[123] Joel, *loc. cit.,* 7; City Directories, 1878-1882.
[124] Joel, *loc. cit.,* 10.
[125] *Ibid.,* 12.
[126] *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer,* Jan. 1, 1867.
[127] "Garrett's Necrology."
[128] The late famous Arctic explorer.
[129] "Garrett's Necrology."
[130] *Ibid.; Atlanta Daily New Era,* Feb. 28, 1867.
[131] *Atlanta Daily New Era,* Feb. 28, 1867.
[132] "Garrett's Necrology."
[133] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1867, Book E.
[134] "Garrett's Necrology."
[135] *Ibid.*
[136] Quoted in *Thompson, Reconstruction in Georgia,* 333.

CHAPTER 46

1868

THE Constitutional Convention of 1868, called by military order and held under military supervision, met in Atlanta, as previously noted, on December 9, 1867.

Of the 169 delegates to the convention, 37 were Negroes, nine were white Carpetbaggers, and about 12 were conservative whites. The remainder, and majority, were native whites, known as Scalawags, because they went over to the reconstructionists.[1]

The delegates in general were obscure men with little experience in, or aptitude for, public affairs. The contempt in which they were held by the better element was recognized by the President of the Convention in his opening address when he said: "Many of us have come here from amongst a people who have spurned us and spit upon us. . . . The bitter and proscriptive spirit manifested toward us by our neighbors . . . should not influence our action. . . . We should form a State Government for an unwilling people, based upon the soundest principles of justice. . . ."[2]

Conspicuous among the Negroes striving for leadership in the convention were Aaron Alpeoria Bradley, of Savannah; Tunis G. Campbell, of McIntosh County, and Henry M. Turner, of Macon. Bradley, a notably objectionable character, had served a prison sentence in New York State for seduction and had been stricken from the roll of attorneys in Massachusetts for malpractice and contempt of court. He was finally expelled from the Convention by unanimous vote for "malicious mouthing." Campbell, also with an unenviable record, had come to Georgia from New Jersey soon after the war and had set up a so-called republic on St. Catherine's Island off the Georgia coast, with himself at its head. He had likewise been the subject of a Freedmen's Bureau investigation for inciting Negroes and disturbing the peace. Henry M. Turner, a better man by far than either Bradley or Campbell, had come South as chaplain of a Negro regiment in the Union Army and later engaged in missionary work for the African Methodist Church. During the period of radical reconstruction he saw a greater opportunity in politics, and after serving in the legislature of 1868 was appointed postmaster of Macon, Georgia, by President Grant. Still later he moved to Atlanta, resumed his religious work, and became a respected Bishop of the A. M. E. Church.[3]

The Carpetbaggers included men from Vermont, New York, Ohio, and other Northern States who had come South seeking their fortunes and had been in Georgia for only two or three years. Like the Negroes in the Convention they were largely controlled by the radical Republicans. Notable among this group was Asa Lyman Harris, known as "Colonel" Harris and as "Fatty" Harris, the latter title having been inspired by his weight which was well over 300 pounds. Harris was born in Ohio in 1833. He espoused the Union cause and, in 1864, located in Savannah, Georgia, where he had charge of all the mail for Sherman's army. He came to Atlanta soon afterward, and being a civil engineer by profession and a follower of Rufus B. Bullock, was made supervisor of the W. & A. R. R. after the latter became governor. Harris appeared as a member of the legislature in 1870, but was charged with merely representing the W. & A. R. R., and declared not entitled to a seat on the floor. Nevertheless, he was designated by Governor Bullock to organize the House, which he did after extreme difficulty. After the storm of reconstruction had passed Harris continued to live in Atlanta, where he engaged chiefly in editorial pursuits. Among the subjects of his editorial prowess were the *Railroad Gazette,* the *Southern Industrial Record* and, for a short time, the *Post Appeal.* In 1892, when nearly 60, he entered the Southern Medical College of Atlanta as a student, and graduated with distinction in 1894. He practiced medicine for two years and died as Dr. Asa L. Harris at his home on Luckie Street near North Avenue, January 28, 1896. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[4] While never one of Atlanta's most popular citizens, Asa L. Harris was certainly one of its most versatile.

Unlike the constitutional conventions of some of the other Southern states, that of Georgia in 1867 and 1868 was not dominated by Negroes and Carpetbaggers. Its principal leaders, Rufus B. Bullock, Benjamin F. Conley, Amos T. Ackerman and Henry K. McCay, though not native Georgians, had resided here for periods of time ranging from eight to nearly forty years, and therefore had an interest in the well-being of the State according to their own lights. Such was, generally, the composition of the Convention which met in Atlanta's City Hall to formulate the destiny of Georgia, and of which J. R. Parrott of Bartow County was elected President and P. M. Scheibley, Secretary.[5]

The deliberations of the Convention inspired caustic comment from many quarters, including S. P. Richards, who recorded in his diary on December 21, 1867:

> "The Menagerie convention has been in operation—that is, *showing*—for two weeks now and except as a great *show* have accomplished nothing at all but to spend our money at the rate of $2000 per diem. It makes me feel wolfish every time I think about those niggers there pretending to make laws for Georgia white men. It is too great a burlesque on law and order."

A few days later, on January 2, 1868, Miss Elizabeth Sterchi, a middle-aged teacher who had come to Atlanta from East Tennessee in 1866, wrote to Bishop George F. Bahnson, of Salem, North Carolina:

> ". . . A great excitement has been caused the last month [in Atlanta] by the presence of the Convention; and by all that I have heard of it, from people who have gone there for mere curiosity, it is terrible to think that the Government has lowered itself so much as to trust the making of laws to such base and vile men. Everyone is disgusted, and some members themselves have resigned, or never have been there, ashamed as they were to be counted in such a crowd. General Pope is gone, to the satisfaction of the reasonable people of both sides; he was generally detested because of his weather-cock character. The Radical party has rendered itself odious to everyone, and everyone hopes this is the end of it. . . ."[6]

General Pope had indeed departed. He left the day Miss Sterchi wrote to the Bishop, and in obedience to an order relieving him of command. He was accompanied by his family and two of his personal staff, Major William M. Dunn, Jr., and Captain Charles S. Illsley. All the officers of the post, the fine military band, and a large number of the citizens of Atlanta who were friendly to the General, escorted him to his train and bade him farewell.[7] The order of President Johnson removing Pope from command was dated December 28, 1867.[8]

One of Pope's last official acts as military commander of this district was to order State Treasurer John "Honest Jack" Jones to pay to N. L. Angier, disbursing officer of the Constitutional Convention, which had just adjourned for the Christmas holidays, the sum of $40,000, which it had by ordinance voted to itself for payment of its expenses. Jones refused to obey the order, saying he was forbidden to pay money out of the treasury except on the warrant of the governor and the sanction of the comptroller-general, and that he had entered into heavy bonds for the faithful performance of his duties. Pope was removed before he could take further action and the dispute was inherited by his successor.[9]

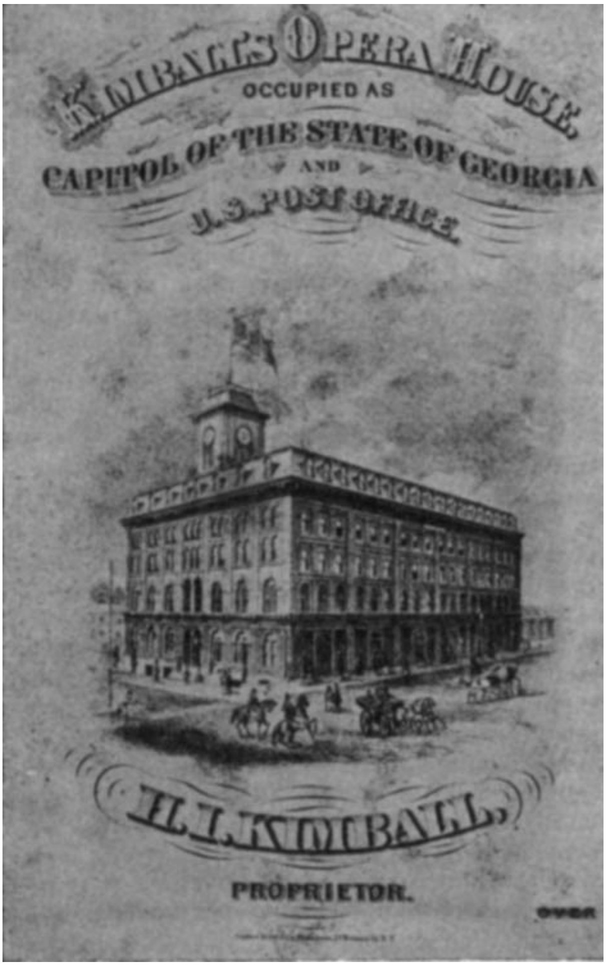
The new commander of the Third Military District was the distinguished veteran of Gettysburg, Major-General George Gordon Meade. The *Savannah News* voiced the sentiment of conservatives generally when it said that there was cause for rejoicing that a high-minded soldier had been substituted for a military satrap. A reporter for the Atlanta *New Era,* on January 10, 1868, described General Meade as being "pleasing in appearance and attractive socially—more like a Virginia gentleman than a soldier."[10]

The new commander arrived in Atlanta on Sunday morning, January 5th, and immediately assumed his duties with headquarters at the Kontz home on Marietta Street. He was accompanied by General R. C. Drum and Colonels George Meade and C. D. Emory of his staff.[11]

General Meade was accorded a warm welcome in Atlanta and soon after his arrival in the city was tendered a banquet given by local citizens. Among those who attended was General John B. Gordon, ante-bellum Atlanta lawyer, Confederate hero and late rice planter of Brunswick, Georgia, who had just moved back to Atlanta where he was soon launched upon a notable political career. The first toast of the evening at the Meade banquet was, of course, to the honored guest. Immediately following, it was suggested that the banqueters drink to the health of General Gordon. Someone then objected upon the ground that it was "too soon after the war to be drinking to the health of a man who had been fighting for four years in the Rebel army." Immediately General Meade sprang to his feet, and, after complimenting Gordon, held his glass high and said: "I propose to drink, and drink now, to my former foe, but now friend, General Gordon, of Georgia."[12]

The hero of Gettysburg had made a promising start in Atlanta, but his popularity was nipped in the bud when he took action in connection with his immediate legacy, the affair of John Jones, State Treasurer. Jones responded with the State's money with no more alacrity to Meade than he had responded to Pope. In fact he secretly left Georgia with the requisitioned $40,000 and went to New York, where he put it in safe-keeping. Governor Jenkins had cooperated with Treasurer Jones by refusing to sign a warrant for the money. Therefore, on January 13, 1868, Meade removed both Jenkins and Jones from office. The former went to Washington carrying the executive seal of the State and about $400,000, which he placed in New York to secure the public debt.[13]

General Meade then filled the governor's chair and the treasurer's office by "detailing" for those positions two army officers, both on January 13th. The former office went to Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas H. Ruger, Colonel Thirty-third Infantry, and the latter to Brevet Captain Charles F. Rockwell, Ordnance Corps, U. S. A.[14] Thomas Howard Ruger, a professional soldier, was born in 1833 at Lima, New York, and graduated from West Point in 1854, being then placed in the Engineer Corps of the Army. During the War Between the States he saw service in the Rappahannock campaigns; commanded a division at Gettysburg, and served as a brigade commander under Sherman in the Atlanta campaign. His service as governor of Georgia was anomalous and out of the purview of military authority, but General Ruger bore himself with dignity and with as little offense to the people of the State as the circumstances allowed.[15]



(*Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society*)

State Capitol of Georgia, 1868-1889. Southwest corner Forsyth and Marietta Streets, present site of Western Union Building

A few days after the removal of Governor Jenkins and Treasurer Jones, General Meade removed Comptroller-General John T. Burns and Secretary of State Nathan C. Barnett, the charge being "obstructing the fulfillment of the Reconstruction Acts." Captain Charles Wheaton, U. S. A., was "detailed" to fill both offices.[16] To the conservative people of Georgia, the name Meade was rapidly becoming anathema, though the General had no alternative but to enforce the Reconstruction Acts so long as the State remained unrestored to the Union.

For more than twenty years forward-looking Atlanta citizens had cherished the idea of making their city the Capital of the State. Attempts in 1847 and 1854 had failed, but with a new State constitution being formulated it seemed propitious to try again. Then too the city had grown tremendously, and Atlanta was much more accessible by rail than Milledgeville, the seat of government since 1807.

On February 26, 1868, a special meeting of City Council was called to make a formal proposal to the Constitutional Convention of what the city would do, provided the removal of the State Capital from Milledgeville to Atlanta was incorporated in the new Constitution, in accordance with a resolution to that effect, offered in the Convention by James L. Dunning, a member from Fulton County. A proposal was agreed upon and submitted to the Convention, which took immediate action. Indeed, on February 28th, the thanks of Council were voted to the Convention for its action embodying the capital removal to Atlanta in the new Constitution which was to be submitted to the voters of the State.[17]

On February 29th S. P. Richards recorded in his diary:

"The *fifth* Saturday in February! When shall we see another? Atlanta has been promoted to the dignity and importance of being the Capital of Georgia by ordinance of our great Convention the past week, so that if the people ratify the Constitution, this is a *capital* place."

Only a week before, on the 22nd, Richards had observed:

"Washington's birthday!—If the 'Father of his Country' could now see to what a pitiable condition the land he fought for has come in these latter days he would be sorry I think that he ever rescued her from British thraldom. And our Radical Anti-Constitution Convention dared to adjourn over to do honor to his memory."

Having succeeded in getting the capital removal incorporated in the proposed new Constitution, a committee of Council consisting of Richard Peters, Edward E. Rawson, and E. W. Holland was appointed to take into consideration, and report to the whole body from time to time such arrangements as appeared requisite to meet the contemplated removal.[18] There, for the time being, the matter rested.

By early March the work of the Constitutional Convention in Atlanta was nearly completed. A new constitution had been framed and there remained only the matter of nominating a candidate for governor, other State officers, and representatives to Congress. On March 7th Rufus Brown Bullock received the Republican nomination for governor against little opposition.[19]

The nominee was no ordinary man. Physically he was large and handsome. In manner he was sociable, pleasant and generally well liked.[20] Most of his experience had been gained in the business and not the political world. At the time of his nomination he was not quite 34 years old, having been born in Bethlehem, New York, March 28, 1834. When still a lad in his teens, Bullock became fascinated by the comparatively new and rapidly developing electric telegraph systems. He soon became an expert telegrapher and later engaged in building telegraph lines from New York City to the South. His enterprise attracted the attention of the Adams Express Company management, by whom he was sent South to organize their business with headquarters in Augusta, Georgia. The system subsequently became the Southern Express Company.

Bullock was opposed to secession, but when the war came on offered his services to the Confederacy, which he served as acting assistant quartermaster general, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, being paroled at Appomattox in April, 1865. Returning to Augusta he secured a charter for and organized the First National Bank there. In 1867 he became president of the Macon and Augusta Railroad. When the question of congressional reconstruction came up, he advised its acceptance as a choice of evils, deeming civil government, even with the danger of Negro suffrage, better than military rule with its paralysis of business and enterprise. Accordingly he was sent to Atlanta as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention.[21]

The Convention adjourned March 11, 1868, General Meade having designated April 20-24 as the date for voting to ratify or reject the new State Constitution and to elect officers. Profiting from the experience of their error in refusing to vote in 1867, the Democrats, or Conservatives as they were called, undertook to perfect an organization and control the election of 1868 in order to prevent rule by Negroes, Carpetbaggers and Scalawags, to which they preferred military rule.[22]

On March 13th the Democratic executive committee nominated Judge Augustus Reese, recently deposed by General Pope as Judge of the Ocmulgee Circuit, for governor. He was forced to withdraw when General Meade declared him ineligible under the Fourteenth Amendment. Judge David Irwin, of Marietta, was the next candidate proposed, but he too was declared ineligible by Meade. The committee then consulted the General and received his sanction to name General John B. Gordon.[23] Speaking for the Conservatives of Georgia the Columbus *Sun,* on April 7, 1868, commented: "It is not signified how long Meade intends to let Gordon run, but as long as John B. Gordon runs, we are for him."

Under date of Saturday, April 4th, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary:

> "Tonight Jabe and I attended a political at Davis Hall and heard an address from Gen. John B. Gordon, who was then and there nominated by the Democratic Committee for the office of Governor of Georgia in opposition to the Radical nominee Bullock."

The ensuing campaign was short, but rancorous and bitter. The Democrats were in a tough spot. In general, they adopted the enigmatical policy of defeating the constitution and electing Gordon, which would have resulted in Gordon's election becoming a nullity, together with defeating the congressional plan of reconstruction and insuring a continuance of military rule. The Republicans (commonly called Radicals) urged both the constitution as a statement of their political platform and the election of Bullock.[24]

To secure a peaceful election and a large Negro vote, General Meade issued various orders for the conduct of the election. He forbade the assembling of armed bodies of men to discuss political questions, and the carrying of arms at or near the polls on election day. Superintendents of registration and officers of the Freedmen's Bureau were ordered to instruct the Negroes in their rights, a function they performed with zeal. It was during this election that the recently organized Ku Klux Klan, never very active in the Atlanta area during the reconstruction period, came to the fore. In some of the predominantly black counties of the State, it kept many Negroes away from the polls by intimidation, thereby placing those counties in the conservative column.[25]

In Atlanta the election was held at the City Hall, under military supervision and with soldiers on guard at the polls. Of five local election managers, two were appointed by the Fulton County ordinary and three by the Governor. One of the former was Dr. J. F. Alexander. Soldiers with fixed bayonets not only surrounded the building, but finally marched inside and surrounded the polling place. This was too much for Dr. Alexander. He put his hand over the ballot box and said: "No ballots shall be put in this box, except over my dead body until these soldiers are removed." The officer in charge, not wishing to harm a leading citizen, ordered his men to withdraw.[26]

Under date of Saturday, April 25th, S. P. Richards wrote in his diary:

> "This has been a week of considerable excitement and interest. It has been *election* time to decide whether or not the Scalawag Constitution shall be ratified, and to elect Governor and Legislators for the State. It is not yet known definitely what the result is, whether Gen. Gordon the Democratic candidate, or Col. Bullock the Radical nominee is chosen, but I fear it is the latter and there is but little doubt that the nigger Constitution is ratified. The contest has been a close one, however it may turn out."

Insofar as Fulton County was concerned the contest was close. The new constitution was ratified by a vote of 2,229 to 2,019, while Bullock received 1,914 votes against Gordon's 2,357.[27] For the state as a whole the new constitution received a majority of 17,972 and Bullock was elected governor by a majority of 7,171 votes.[28] Thus did the State of Georgia, three years after the end of the war, have thrust upon it both a new constitution and a Republican governor.

The Constitution of 1868 was, thanks to the good judgment and skill of the more conservative white members of the convention, the most progressive, in many ways, that Georgia had had up to that time. Imprisonment for debt was abolished and the right of secession was denied. Negroes were granted the right to vote, but the whites were not disfranchised, as had been done in Tennessee and some other Southern States. Whipping as a punishment for crime was forbidden. It was provided that mechanics and laborers should have liens upon the property of their employers for labor performed and materials furnished. The Governor's term was increased to four years with no prohibition against re-election. The Inferior Courts were abolished and the capital of the State was designated as Atlanta in lieu of Milledgeville. Married women were given full rights in connection with their own property, inherited or acquired, which was not to be liable for the debts of the husband. Dueling was outlawed, and, perhaps most important of all, the General Assembly was directed to provide "a thorough system of general education, to be forever free to all children of the State." This provision was implemented by the establishment of the office of State School Commissioner and the stipulation that the educational system was to be financed by the poll tax, taxes on shows, exhibitions, and the sale of spirituous liquors. The proceeds from commutations for military service (provided especially for conscientious objectors) were set aside for the schools. Funds from all of these sources were to be supplemented if necessary by a general property tax.[29]

Generally speaking, the Conservatives decried these progressive measures of the new constitution as a "sugar-coat" to "make the people swallow it."[30] Yet basically, their real quarrel with the Constitution of 1868 was not based so much upon its substance as upon its origin.

On July 25, 1868, Georgia, North and South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, and Louisiana were admitted to representation in Congress over the President's veto, on condition that they ratify the Fourteenth Amendment. The same day Governor-elect Bullock issued a proclamation in which he referred to that Act of Congress, and called upon all persons who had been elected members of the General Assembly at the election held in April, and who were eligible to office under the Act, to convene in Atlanta at 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, July 4th.[31]

City Council, meanwhile, had offered the City Hall as a temporary meeting place for the Legislature, and on June 30th Councilman W. B. Cox left for Milledgeville with a train of sixteen cars, having an order from Provisional Governor Ruger to receive and transfer the furniture of the State House to the new capitol at Atlanta.[32]

In accordance with General Orders No. 91, issued by General Meade on June 28th, Provisional Governor Ruger was to be relieved in favor of Governor-elect Bullock, the appointment and relief to date from July 4th, the date specified for the assemblage of the Legislature.[33]

The first meeting of the Legislature under the Constitution of 1868 and in the new Capital of the State, Atlanta, convened on schedule at high noon, Saturday, July 4, 1868. The Atlanta *Constitution,* in reporting the event, said in part:[34]

"According to the Governor's Proclamation convening the Legislature, the members of both Houses assembled in the Senate Chamber (west wing of the capitol, late City Hall, Atlanta), at 12 o'clock M, on the 4th day of July, 1868. The Hall being rather small for such an occasion, was crowded to overflowing by the mass of persons collected there—some for legitimate purposes—some for —well we won't say what. Besides the members proper, there were any amount of eager office-seekers, as well as others whose chief motive no doubt was to satisfy a very excusable curiosity. If the crowd inside was large, that outside was still more so. The black element was here predominant. A guard stationed at the entrance below prevented the ingress of the masses. By special permit of Governor Bullock (for which he will please accept our thanks) we were permitted to enter the arena. The regulations for the admission of persons were well conceived and as well carried out. We noticed within the Hall a wholesome sprinkling of the military. All things considered, the aggregate membership of the Georgia Legislature presents a *fairer* appearance than can be found at present in any other State lately in rebellion. The people have done as well as could be expected under the circumstances and we hope to be excused for expressing the opinion that the thing is, after all, not nearly so bad as it might have been.

"At 12 o'clock, Governor Bullock, with General Meade, Judge [John] Erskine [of the Federal Court, District of Georgia], and J. R. Parrott, entered the Senate chamber, and mounted the rostrum, Gen. Meade seating himself on the left, and Judge Erskine and Col. Parrott on the right of the Governor. . . ."

After a reading of various acts, orders and proclamations, followed by roll call, Judge Erskine administered the oath to members of both Houses. The organization of the Legislature was then perfected with the election of Benjamin Conley and A. E. Marshall as President and Secretary, respectively, of the Senate. R. L. McWhorter, of Greene County, was elected Speaker of the House. The Speaker then announced the next business in order to be the election of a Clerk, but before this could be attended to a band of music on the outside created such confusion as made it necessary to adjourn until Monday morning, July 6th.[35] Civil government under radical reconstruction had made a start.

This unusual and significant day in the history of Atlanta did not go unnoticed by diarist S. P. Richards. He recorded:

"Saturday, July 4th. This has been a *considerable* day in Atlanta as several important things have transpired. First, the meeting of the Legislature under the new regime. Second, the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Republican *Grant Club* of Georgia. Third, the inauguration of Bullock as Governor.[36] And Fourth, a concourse of niggers, male and female in about equal numbers around the City Hall, now the Capitol. This is the first time the Georgia Legislature has met in a crowd of niggers, but as there are niggers in *the body* itself of course it cannot be amiss to have them around. There was a considerable display of common fireworks tonight, such as rockets, Roman candles, etc."

The Atlanta area representation in the Legislature of 1868 was all Democratic. Senator for the Thirty-fourth District, comprising Gwinnett, De Kalb, and Henry counties, was Milton A. Candler, of Decatur. The Thirty-fifth, composed of Cobb, Clayton, and Fulton was represented in the Senate by William T. Winn, of Cobb County, who was later declared ineligible. In the House of Representatives De Kalb was represented by Rev. William Henry Clarke, a pioneer Methodist minister and farmer. Fulton had three representatives, Vardy P. Sisson, local editor of the *Daily Intelligencer* and printer; Edward M. Talliaferro, farmer and solid citizen of South Fulton County, and James E. Gullatt, Atlanta brass and bell founder.[37]

On July 21st both houses ratified the Fourteenth Amendment, as required by the Congressional Act of June 25, 1868, as a qualification for readmission to the Union. The following day, and fourth anniversary of the Battle of Atlanta, Rufus B. Bullock was inaugurated Governor in the hall of the House of Representatives. After a brief speech in which the Governor expressed satisfaction that civil government was about to succeed military government in Georgia, Judge Erskine administered the oath of office, and Benjamin Conley, president of the Senate, read the following proclamation:

"Know ye, know ye, that Rufus B. Bullock is hereby declared governor of the State of Georgia, for the term of four years from the date prescribed by the constitution, for the commencement of his term. God save the governor and the commonwealth of Georgia!"

Some little applause followed this announcement, after which a voice from the rear of the hall was heard to exclaim, "Go it, niggers!"

Thus was Georgia restored to the Union. A meeting was held at the National Hotel that evening, at which Governor Bullock made a neat speech, and General Meade expressed satisfaction that the State had been restored. On July 30th military authority was withdrawn. The Second and Third Military Districts soon ceased to exist, and the Department of the South was constituted of the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida and Alabama. General Meade remained in command for the time being, with headquarters in Atlanta. Troops still remained, concentrated in Savannah, Atlanta, and Dahlonega.[38]

The editor of the *Atlanta Constitution* did not accept Georgia's restoration to the Union with unalloyed joy. In the lead editorial for July 22, 1868, entitled "In the Union," he said:

"By the action of the Georgia Legislature on yesterday, in adopting the Fourteenth Amendment, we are, according to Radical theory, once more in the Union. Having uniformly and consistently opposed every measure of Radical reconstruction proposed for our acceptance, earnestly believing that they were detrimental to the best interests of the State, we have no congratulations to offer our readers on the accession of Georgia to the Union. As to the wisdom or fallacy of this policy it remains to be verified whether we had not best continued under military government longer, in preference to flying from present ills to ills we know not of.

"We return to the Union under a Constitution and State Government which have no foundations in the affection of our people. In fact they are repugnant to a large majority of our fellow citizens, whilst, history proves the impracticability of all laws and governments foreign to the sentiments of the people for whom they are instituted.

"By adopting the Amendment we entitle ourselves to representation in Congress, and it may be, relief from Federal military rule. But what advantage do we derive from representation in the higher law conclave at Washington, or from exchanging the rule of the regular military, most of whose officers are gentlemen, and whose government has been as lenient as we could have expected, for a rag and bobtail militia likely to be composed in the main of such material as that which, under Brownlow, curses down-trodden Tennessee. By the enfranchisement of the lowest class in our midst without distinction, and the wholesale disfranchisement of our best citizens, we have certainly taken a retrograde movement not at all in consonance with the progressive spirit of the age.

"It remains to be seen whether the representatives, as well as the people, of Georgia will not bitterly rue the action taken by them on yesterday."

Events of the next three years were to sustain, in part at least, the forebodings of this editorial, though certain local advertisers in the *Constitution* during the summer of 1868 were not so inhibited, as illustrated by the following:[39]

THE UNION RESTORED!

Physical Disabilities Removed!

Now, if you want your Physical Infirmities removed, call on

SWANSON & BOYKIN,
Druggists,

Whitehall.................Street

And Get a Bottle of

Dr. Lawrence's Rosadalis,

the Great Blood Purifier,

Which is the Panacea for All Diseases Arising from an Impure State of the Blood.

We have also in store everything to be found in a
FIRST-CLASS DRUG HOUSE,
SUCH AS,
PAINTS, OILS, WINDOW-GLASS, PUTTY,
DRUGS, CHEMICALS,
All the Popular Patent Medicines,
Perfumery, Toilet Articles, &c.
PRESCRIPTIONS FILLED at all hours, day and night, by a
competent Pharmaceutist.

Friction soon developed between Governor Bullock and General Meade, for the latter was out of sympathy with the radical Republicans in Georgia and refused to support Bullock in having conservative members of the General Assembly declared ineligible when it assembled. A test of strength within the Legislature was soon to come. On July 29th an election was held for United States Senators. A coalition of conservatives, moderate Republicans, and independents—in general, the anti-Bullock element, supported Joshua Hill, a moderate Republican, of Madison, Georgia, and Dr. Homer Virgil Milton Miller, formerly of Rome, Georgia, then of Atlanta, and known as "the Demosthenes of the Mountains." Bullock and his colleagues threw their strength to former governor Joseph E. Brown and to Foster Blodgett, Republican and former mayor of Augusta, Georgia. To the chargin of Bullock, Hill was elected for the long term over Brown, 110 to 94, while Miller defeated Blodgett 119 to 73.[40]

In commenting upon this action of the Legislature the *Intelligencer* said the results were glorious. Indeed, the city of Atlanta was full of excitement over the senatorial selections. A large crowd gathered in front of the United States Hotel,[41] where it was addressed by the Senators-elect, General John B. Gordon, Warren Akin, Col. R. J. Cowart and A. W. Holcombe.[42]

On Saturday, August 1st, S. P. Richards noted in his diary:

". . . There was great enthusiasm on Wed. last on the defeat of Ex-Gov. Joe Brown for Senator, although in his place, Joshua Hill, another Republican, was chosen. The Democrats rejoiced as over a great victory, so great is their indignation against poor Joe."

On August 19th the Atlanta *Constitution* published a front page funeral notice for the Radical party of Georgia. It read:

"FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.—It had been given out for some time that the Radical party of Georgia would hold a grand mass meeting in this city today. It turns out that the information was a mistake. Instead of a political meeting, it is simply a funeral occasion, and as we write, the mournful ceremonies are being performed by a few hundred negroes over a defunct body. At intervals since early morn the cannon has been sending forth a melancholly peal, with several United States flags at half mast.

"The history of the party may be written in a word: Young in years it was old in infamy. Born of blood, it fattened upon corruption.

"While it lived, it lived in clover;
When it died, it died all over."

As later events were to prove, the obsequies were premature.

In September, 1868, the Legislature, over the vigorous protest of Governor Bullock and the keen displeasure of Congress, expelled its Negro members, twenty-five from the House and three from the Senate. This action was taken on the ground that under the Constitution of Georgia, Negroes were ineligible to hold office.[43] In a case decided the following year, the Supreme Court of Georgia ruled that Negroes were eligible to hold office, though the decision was not unanimous. Justice Hiram Warner dissented from the majority opinion rendered by Chief Justice Joseph E. Brown and Justice H. K. McCay.[44]

Even worse in the eyes of the Republican Congress than the expulsion of the Negroes from the Legislature was the fact that Georgia chose Democratic electors in the presidential election of 1868.[45] The malevolent Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania had died in August, 1868, but the Democrats of Georgia had apparently reckoned without Charles Sumner, of Massachusetts. His actions were to have a far-reaching effect upon reconstruction in Georgia during 1869 and later.

The presidential campaign of 1868 evoked some exciting times in Atlanta during that year, and was the inspiration for the long-renowned "Bush Arbor" meeting, one of the most significant political gatherings ever held in the city and certainly the occasion of some of its finest and most inspired oratory.

On May 20th, the Republican National convention, meeting in Chicago, nominated Ulysses Grant for president, and Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana, for vice-president. The Democratic convention met in New York City on July 4th, the same day the legislature of Georgia first met in Atlanta. The nominee of the party was Horatio Seymour, of New York, former governor of that state and a sharp critic of the reconstruction policy of the Republican party, for president. The vice-presidential nomination went to Frank P. Blair of St. Louis, former commander of the 17th Army Corps under Sherman in the Atlanta campaign.[46]

During the winter of 1867-68 a Young Men's Democratic Club was organized in Atlanta, at the first meeting of which Colonel Edward F. Hoge, lawyer and fifteen years later, founder of the Atlanta *Journal,* was elected president. The club went to work energetically to secure speakers and to solidify the Democracy of the country against Republicanism and radical reconstruction. At Davis Hall in Atlanta, on March 10, 1868, the club was addressed for the first time by Benjamin H. Hill. At the beginning of his speech he employed an apt analogy when he compared the current of politics to the Niagara River, calm and peaceful for a distance; then changing to rapids, and finally to a precipitous descent.[47]

The Young Men's Democratic Club spearheaded the enthusiastic local support accorded the Democratic nominees for president and vice-president in 1868. A few days after the nomination of Seymour and Blair a big speaking was held in Davis' Hall. S. P. Richards recorded the event in his diary under date of Saturday, July 11th:

"On Thursday aft' the news came that the Democratic Convention in New York had nominated unanimously Gov. Horatio Seymour of New York and Frank Blair for President and Vice-President, and immediately a big speaking was announced at Davis's Hall at night and I went altho' it rained and the Hall was full and Bob Toombs and Howell Cobb spoke for Seymour and the crowd cheered enthusiastically. I hope Seymour and Blair will distance the firm of Grant & Colfax next November."

The big day came on July 23rd when the State Democratic Convention assembled in Davis' Hall and a mammoth political mass meeting, the largest ever held in Georgia, took place on a vacant tract of land between the passenger depot and Alabama Street just east of Pryor. For the latter purpose an immense bush arbor was constructed and hard plank seats were provided for the thousands of spectators who flocked to the gathering from all parts of the state. An unequaled quartet of popular speakers, Robert Toombs, Howell Cobb, Benjamin H. Hill, and Raphael J. Moses held forth for five hours with invective and eloquence as hot and torrid as the sweltering July day. A pall of stifling dust hung over the massed throng, fully one third of whom were women, but, in spite of the discomfort, the crowd sat and stood spellbound. Every note of denunciation hurled at reconstruction and reconstructionists was greeted with deafening applause.[48]

Prior to the mass meeting elaborate preparations had been made, which were embodied in

"ORDER OF THE DAY

Thursday, July 23, 1868.

"The delegations from the different counties will form in line on Broad street, at 8 o'clock, on Thursday morning, under the direction of the Chief Marshal of the day and his assistants.

"The procession will move down Broad Street to Mitchell Street, down Mitchell to Whitehall Street, up Whitehall to Alabama Street, and down Alabama to the Arbor in front of the American Hotel.[49]

"When the head of the column reaches Alabama Street, the flag will be run up on the Seymour and Blair pole at the Speaker's stand, and be saluted with thirteen guns, at the termination of which, the meeting will be organized and the speaking commence.

"Several distinguished orators will address the assembled multitude, and music will be introduced at proper intervals.

MARSHALS OF THE DAY

CHIEF MARSHAL

General Phil Cook, of Macon County, Ga.

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

Gen. R. J. Henderson, of Newton
Gen. Geo. S. Black, of Floyd
Col. W. F. Wright, of Coweta
Col. C. T. Goode, of Sumter
Capt. Lewis H. Kenan, of Baldwin
Dr. J. B. Carleton, of Clarke
Capt. John A. Christian, of Richmond
Capt. Geo. W. Anderson, of Fulton
Capt. Frank Myers, of Cobb

Marshals will appear with proper insignia

COMMITTEE ON RECEPTION

Dr. John M. Johnson, Maj. John H. Steele, Col. Carey W. Styles, S. Weil, Esq., Hon. William Ezzard, Maj. A. Leyden.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS

Rush Irwin, Albert Hape, Amos Fox, C. A. King, George Wallace, Oliver Jones, Calvin Fay, M. Corput, M. Frank O. A. V. Rose, Miles Turpin, W. T. Newman, J. S. Reeve, Phil Dodd, L. H. Orme, M. A. Bell, A. J. McBride, S. Stocking, J. Godfrey, C. H. Montgomery, B. Wooten, W. H. Hulsey, W. H. Browning, H. Bohnefeld, M. H. Sisson, D. Guard, S. Buice, D. Shaver, C. Schnatz, ——— Steinheimer, ——— Rosenfeld, Geo. H. Hammond

TORCH-LIGHT PROCESSION

"Thursday night the several county delegations will assemble on Broad Street, in front of Democratic Headquarters [Davis' Hall], where material will be distributed for the torch-light procession.

LINE OF MARCH

"Marietta Street, from Marietta to Walton, from Walton to Forsyth, from Forsyth to Peachtree, from Peachtree to Cain, from Cain to Ivey (*sic*), from Ivey to Decatur, from Decatur to Peachtree, from Peachtree, through Whitehall Street to Peters, from Peters to Washington, from Washington to Alabama, from Alabama to the public stand, where speaking will close the order of the day.

"The advocates of constitutional rights and the supporters of SEYMOUR AND BLAIR along the line of march and elsewhere throughout the city are requested to illuminate their dwellings and storehouses on this occasion.

"The chairman of each county delegation will please report upon their arrival at Democratic Headquarters on Broad Street.

JAMES F. ALEXANDER,
Chairman Dem. Ex. Com. Fulton County."[50]

The Atlanta *Constitution,* then little more than a month old, was right on the job during the speaking at the Bush Arbor, with an interim report:

"ALL-AGOG.—Atlanta is today afloat on the sea of Democracy. The spacious arbor on Alabama Street is crowded to the extent of its capacity with thousands of earnest and true Democrats, whilst scores of others are unable to approach in hearing distance of the speakers' stand. We are pleased also to note that the occasion is greeted and graced by the presence of many of Georgia's fair daughters.

"The eloquent voice of the eloquent Toombs was the first to ring out its clarion tones, as the assembled multitude, in enthusiastic response, echoed his earnest utterances. Toombs was followed by Gen. Cobb in one of the best speeches of his life,[51] and was constantly applauded by the delighted audience. Then came the gallant Hill, and as we write his eagle eye is flashing like a flame with the eloquence which his tongue, like a trumpet, is proclaiming to the vast audience."[52]

Ben Hill's "Bush Arbor" speech was certainly one of his most notable. It has been compared to the great speech of Cicero against Catiline, with Joe

Brown, for Hill's purpose, Catiline. One who heard it—and a good judge—said of it: "such a speech of such compass, pitched upon such a key, was never made in this State before or since." At its close General Toombs jumped from his seat and in the presence of the great crowd threw his arms around the speaker, tossed his hat in the air and shouted: "Three cheers for Ben Hill."[53]

The torch-light parade, by which Bush Arbor day was concluded was both spectacular and successful. Thousands joined the line of march which proceeded through the main streets. A splendid band of music, in a wagon drawn by four horses, was in the lead. Two other bands equidistant in the procession gave inspiring renditions of "Dixie" and other popular songs of the day. Brilliant illumination at every hand rendered the city as light, almost as day, enabling the crowd to read the inscriptions borne along by the marchers and the transparencies on display in store windows and elsewhere.[54]

A large banner, mounted on a wagon near the head of the parade represented a full train of cars bearing hence the military and the Freedmen's Bureau. It bore the inscription, "A Trip up Salt River." An illustrated transparency pictured a spoon, a cigar, and a mallet, inscribed: "Emblems of the Radical party." On Whitehall Street, where the Jewish merchants were mostly located, a transparency proclaimed:

"The Jews will defeat Grant as they defeated Haman. The Jews will elevate Grant to office as they elevated Haman."

Surmounting the cone of the Franklin Printing House on Alabama Street was a large banner reading:

"B's Without Honey:

B—Rown,
B—Lodgett,
B—Radley,
B—Ryant,
B—Ullock,
B—Ard.

Stings extracted in November"
Seymour
and
(Eagle)
Blair

Salutes were fired at several points when the uproarious pageant passed and fireworks were exploded all along the line of march. The celebration ended with a large bonfire on Alabama Street and an artillery salute to Seymour and Blair.[55]

Among the visitors to Atlanta upon this momentous occasion was Thomas Maguire of Rockbridge, Gwinnett County, who recorded his observations in his *Farm Journal:*

"July 22. Off to Atlanta—put up horses at Mr. [John H.] Mecaslin's—ourselves also."

"July 23. The city is crowded. Gwinnett has a beautiful flag and is well represented. We marched to Democratic headquarters escorted by a fine band and one of the Marshals of the day. The Richmond delegation marched before us with a fine flag—several other delegations and flags followed—we marched to the Arbor or stand on the head of the procession arriving in front of the speaker's stand. The Seymour & Blair flag was run up and the cannon belched forth amidst the rejoicing of the assembled multitude. Some three bands of music in attendance discoursed lively airs, the favorite tune was 'Dixie.' R. Toombs was the first speaker—he has lost but little of his former fire as a stump speaker. He was followed by H. Cobb and he by B. Hill, I think the greatest speaker of the three. He is well posted as to the times, is fearless and outspoken. . . ."

Merchant S. P. Richards also took note of the occasion. He wrote on July 23rd:

"This has been a big day in Atlanta. The Mammoth Bush-Arbor constructed in the open space on Alabama Street, for the comfort of the crowd expected to attend the great Democratic meeting today—was filled by a large assembly of *white* folks in the morning to hear the big guns, Toombs, Cobb, and Ben Hill, speak. And at night the greatest political demonstration that Atlanta has ever got up came off in a torch light procession and general illumination. We invested 50¢ in candles to light up our store window. The enthusiasm for Seymour & Blair was immense if the transparencies and the noise of this occasion was any evidence of it."

Then, in a line that could well have been written by Rhett Butler, Mr. Richards concluded:

"I did not hear any of the speeches. I was more profitably employed in selling about $200 worth of mdse."

Amidst all the excitement of July 23rd the Democratic Convention, meeting in Davis Hall, chose its presidential electors. For the State at large they were: General John B. Gordon, of Fulton, and John T. Clarke, of Randolph; Alternates, William T. Wofford, of Bartow, and Thomas M. Norwood, of Chatham.[56] All stood high in the councils of Georgia conservatism. None did in the eyes of the Republican Congress.

The presidential election, held November 3, 1868, resulted in the victory of Grant and Colfax. However, Georgia, Fulton County, De Kalb County and the City of Atlanta all went for Seymour and Blair. The vote in Fulton County and in Atlanta was close. In the county it was 2,812 for Seymour against 2,474 for Grant, while in Atlanta Seymour secured a bare majority of only twelve votes—2,455 to 2,443.[57]

The effect of the Ku Klux Klan in this election was evident. The weird costumes and acts of this secret nocturnal organization played upon the superstitious nature of the Negroes to keep them in subordination. At this period when legal remedies could not be had, the Klan served a useful purpose in convincing many ignorant Negroes that voting was not yet meant for them. It was also more effective than the courts during these troubulous times in preventing Negro men, demoralized by their new freedom, from making attacks upon white women.[58]

The election found its niche in Mr. Richards' diary:

"Sat., Nov. 7. This has been an important week in the history of *the Nation* as its chief magistrate has been chosen for another term of four years. Tuesday was Election day and victory perched upon the Republican banner. Grant & Colfax are *facts* now taken for Granted. But old Georgia declared loudly for the Democrats, a large number of the negroes voting that ticket. I voted for Seymour & Blair, but I did not dread the success of Grant very much, so that I do not feel very much cast down. I *hope* that he may make a good

President after all. What I dislike is to see so many favoring the unconstitutional acts and designs of the Radical Party."

Since July 4, 1868, the most overworked building in Atlanta had been the combination City Hall-Court House-State Capitol at Washington and Hunter streets. It was obvious that the legislature would have to be provided with other quarters, or that the City Hall should be enlarged. City Council had the matter under advisement. On August 14th, after a conference with the House committee of the Legislature, two proposals were made to the State by Council. One involved building an addition to the City Hall. The other was known as the Kimball proposition, and involved completing and fitting up the Opera House Building at Marietta and Forsyth streets on the present site of the Western Union Building. The Kimball proposition was accepted and a committee was appointed to confer with Mr. Kimball as to terms.[59]

While the conference is taking place it might be well to identify the volatile personality known as Hannibal Ingalls Kimball, who burst on public view in Atlanta during late 1867 and blazed like a comet upon the local scene for nearly twenty years.

Like pioneer citizens Jonathan Norcross and Lemuel P. Grant, Kimball was a native of Maine, having been born in Oxford County in 1832. In early youth he learned the carriage builders trade from his father and older brothers. At the age of 19 he moved to New Haven, Connecticut, where by a demonstration of energy and administrative ability he was placed in charge of a large carriage manufactory. In early 1866 he became associated with George M. Pullman, of Chicago, in the building of railroad sleeping cars. Not long afterward he was sent South to aid in the establishment of sleeping car lines in this section, and in that connection had occasion to acquaint himself with the resources and needs of the Southeast. He visited many southern cities and finally chose Atlanta as "the city most likely to succeed," for his headquarters. Kimball was a tall, well-formed man, possessed of a handsome and pleasing countenance. He was brimful of courage and energy and was gifted with extraordinary personal magnetism. Indeed, no one could look upon Hannibal I. Kimball without being conscious that he was in the presence of a remarkable man. His name was destined to become etched in bold letters upon the city of his adoption.[60]

At the April term, 1867, of Fulton Superior Court a charter of incorporation was granted to the Atlanta Opera House and Building Association, composed of J. A. Hayden, H. Sells, Glenn, Carr and Wright, W. R. Phillips, J. W. Duncan, N. L. Angier and others.[61] The Association acquired the southwest corner of Marietta and Forsyth streets and began the erection of a five-story opera house. When the outside walls had been put up, money ran out, as a consequence of which work was stopped and the opera house stood as a mere brick shell for several months. Then, on June 2, 1868, the property was bought by Edwin N. Kimball, brother of H. I., for $31,750 at a receiver's sale.[62]

It was the unfinished opera house that formed the basis of the Kimball proposition for a State Capitol location. Indeed, H. I. Kimball had been an active advocate of the capital removal to Atlanta. Gist of the proposal was that the Kimball brothers were to complete the building and have it ready for occupancy by the legislature by January 1, 1869; that the city would rent part of the building for five years at $6,000 per annum and turn over the rented portion to the State, at the end of which period it was assumed that the State would either buy the building or erect a new one on another site.[63]

A snag was encountered when it came time to install heating and lighting apparatus, carpets and furniture, as these items were not part of the city's proposal. Here Governor Bullock stepped into the picture. Between October and December, 1868, he advanced to H. I. Kimball $54,500 of the State's money for the above purposes without reporting the advances to the State Treasurer, claiming dire necessity, since otherwise the Legislature would have nowhere to meet. The Governor was severely criticized for this action, and much argument ensued between Bullock, Treasurer N. L. Angier, City Council, and various members of the Legislature. However, the opera house was completed and served as the State Capitol of Georgia from 1869 to 1889, when the present Capitol Building was occupied.[64]

Meanwhile, on August 5, 1869, E. N. Kimball conveyed the property to H. I. Kimball by deed, which recited that the property was unencumbered except for a mortgage of $60,000 to the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. Later, on August 23, 1870, H. I. Kimball sold the land and all improvements, including the fixtures in the post office, which was also in the building, to the State for $250,000 of its bonds. Kimball had failed to pay the Northwestern mortgage, which inspired a threat by members of the General Assembly to change the capital back to Milledgeville. To head off this movement the City of Atlanta paid the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company $60,000 plus interest and had the mortgage transferred to itself. It was eventually cancelled by the city.[65]

The whole transaction had about it the elements of financial legerdemain, and became the subject of bitter recriminations and investigations. However, the State of Georgia now owned a Capitol Building in the City of Atlanta. Kimball and Bullock were as careless with public money as was General Sherman with fire, but they built where the latter destroyed.[66]

During the summer of 1868, as the State of Georgia secured a new constitution, so also did the City of Atlanta acquire a "Constitution"—one that still flourishes mightily for the edification and information of its citizens.

The Atlanta *Constitution* was founded by Colonel Carey W. Styles, a veteran of two wars; former mayor of Brunswick, Georgia, where he had killed a man under justifiable circumstances; who had at least one "personal encounter" and another "near-duel" in Atlanta; who is said to have wrecked his own political future by insisting that the State of Georgia pay its just debts, and a lawyer by profession, who had been connected with at least 21 different newspapers.[67]

This colorful character was born October 7, 1825, near Spartanburg, South Carolina. He served in both the Mexican War and the War Between the States, exhibiting such courage during the Battle of Atlanta, that, at the end of the war, he won high commendation from Davis, Lee and Gordon. Soon after the conflict he settled in Albany, Georgia, where he refounded the weekly Albany *News*. As editor he supported the presidential plan of reconstruction, but when the radical Republicans took over in 1867, and with all hope of moderation gone, Styles became a strong supporter of Georgia's rights under the constitution, under the leadership of Benjamin H. Hill, with whom he corresponded regularly.[68]

The *Intelligencer,* Atlanta's oldest daily, was too lukewarm in its democracy to suit men like Styles and Hill. Dr. Samuel Bard's *Daily New Era* was a Republican organ, while the *Daily Opinion,* in favor of Bullock after the Republican convention, had been sold to a group of printers.[69]

Colonel Styles visited Atlanta during May, 1868, for conferences with various democratic leaders. Finally, on June 9th, he announced that he had obtained the financial backing of an Atlanta business man, James H. Anderson, and had bought the "material, good will and business" of the *Daily Opinion*. He "begged indulgence" until the morning of June 16th when a new Democratic daily would appear.[70]

Promptly on schedule Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Atlanta Constitution* appeared. The salutatory editorial included these sentences:

> "We have the honor this morning to offer 'The Constitution' to the country as a candidate for public favor, and to bow ourselves, for the first time, into the arena of daily journalism.
>
> "Our past connection with the press of the state renders unnecessary any foreshadowing of the line of policy we propose pursuing. As editor of the 'Albany News' we cooperated with the national democracy and fixed our political status. Our views have undergone no change, and it is our unalterable determination to 'fight it out on that line.'
>
> "Our name, 'The Constitution,' at once suggests to the thoughtful reader the grand idea that gave birth to the experiment of a new paper in Atlanta. . . . We have departed from the faith of our fathers, and wandered far from the ark of safety. We must return. . . . There will be no repose for the nation, no peace, no prosperity, till we end the revolution by re-establishing constitutional guarantees and constitutional liberty in all the states of the Union.
>
> "For this mission the national democratic party is ordained, and as one of its sentinels on the outer walls our duties will be faithfully, honestly, fearlessly performed. . . ."[71]

According to the late Sam W. Small, long connected with the *Constitution*, Styles obtained the idea for the paper's name from President Andrew Johnson. Small related that Styles made a trip to New York in May to purchase type and materials. On his way back to Atlanta he stopped in Washington to congratulate the President on the failure of the recent impeachment proceedings against him. Johnson recalled that before the war there had been a democratic daily in Washington called *The Constitution*. He suggested the appropriateness of the name to Styles, who liked the idea and christened his new paper accordingly.[72]

Associated with Styles as business manager was Anderson's son-in-law, William A. Hemphill, who had come to Atlanta from Athens in 1867 as a school teacher. All the newspaper experience was vested in Styles, Anderson being a commission merchant.[73]

For the benefit of its readers, the new paper identified itself as to location and physical facilities:

> "THE CONSTITUTION OFFICE is located on Alabama Street, next door to the Ladies' Entrance of the United States Hotel, first floor. The COUNTING ROOM is in the front of the building, where all matters of a business character will be transacted. The EDITORS' SANCTUM is in the rear of the same, access being had to it through the Counting Room. Immediately adjoining the Counting Room we have arranged a comfortable READING ROOM, where the public will find all the prominent Daily and Weekly journals of the country. To this Reading Room we extend a cordial invitation to all."
>
> CAREY W. STYLES & CO.[74]

As to content and subscription rates, it advertised, on June 20, 1868:

THE CONSTITUTION,

A LIVE

Democratic Daily,

Goes forth every morning

FULL FREIGHTED

WITH

VALUABLE INFORMATION,

INTERESTING ORIGINAL MATTER

and the

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

ITS COLUMNS are enriched with the choicest selections from Literature and the Arts, while Agriculture, Commerce, Democracy, Local and State News constitute Leading Features in its Editorial management.

PUBLISHED AT

TEN DOLLARS PER ANNUM,
FIVE DOLLARS FOR SIX MONTHS or
ONE DOLLAR FOR ONE MONTH.

Specimen copies sent on application.

Address:
CAREY W. STYLES & CO.,
Proprietors of THE CONSTITUTION,
Atlanta, Ga.

A WEEKLY will be issued as soon as the necessary material arrives. Price $3.00 per annum.

Before the year was out Colonel Styles was in financial straits. All through the fall he had been trying to sell the Albany *News* in order to pay for his interest in *The Constitution.* Unable to find a buyer, he surrendered his interest to his partner, Anderson, who placed son-in-law Hemphill in charge, whereupon the name of the firm was changed to "W. A. Hemphill & Co." Styles bade farewell to the readers of the paper in the issue of December 5, 1868. "Whatever becomes of me," he wrote somewhat pathetically, "let the Constitution be sustained."[75]*

The subsequent career of Carey W. Styles was as colorful as that before his local advent. Leaving his sword on the wall of the *Constitution's* editorial office, and his pen on the editor's desk, he returned to Albany as editor of the *News.* In 1872 he was elected state senator from the 10th district, composed of Dougherty, Lee and Worth counties. During that year he attracted wide atten-

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*From October, 1868, until January, 1902, William A. Hemphill was principal owner of the *Constitution.*

tion by his bold and eloquent speeches against the blanket repudiation of the railroad bonds issued by the Bullock administration. So strong was feeling on this subject that Styles became involved in a personal encounter with an opponent and was also confronted with the prospect of a duel with Alexander St. Clair Abrams, the hot-tempered editor of the Atlanta *Herald.* Happily it was averted.[76]

In 1876 a buyer finally presented himself for the Albany *News,* and Styles returned to Atlanta briefly as editor of the Georgia *Daily Commonwealth,* and later as one of the publishers of the Atlanta *Telegram.* When these ventures failed, he bought the Gainesville *Eagle* on another shoestring which soon broke. Then after a period of law practice in Canton, Georgia, he returned to Brunswick in 1879 as editor of the weekly Seaport *Appeal.* It followed the usual channel of Styles' papers and soon went on the rocks. Then the editor, in 1881, decided to move west, and went to Texas. Except for a brief period in Birmingham as managing editor of the *Herald,* in 1888-89, he lived in Texas the remainder of his life. One of the last papers he edited there was the Weatherford *Constitution,* a newspaper name for which he apparently had great affection. He died at his home in Stephenville, Texas, on February 25, 1897, and there lies buried.[77]

Colonel Styles' successor as editor of the Atlanta *Constitution* was Major James Russell Barrick, native of Kentucky, and a noted but unsung poet, philosopher and publicist. While serving as postmaster of Glasgow, Kentucky, for sixteen years, Barrick, in his free time, developed a natural bent for becoming a man of letters. After service in the Confederate Army, mostly in Macon, Georgia, he came to Atlanta and worked a year or two for the wholesale and retail drug firm of McCamy & Company on Whitehall Street. While so engaged he acted as associate editor of *Scott's Monthly Magazine,* thereby coming to the attention of Colonel Styles, who in the summer of 1868, employed him full time as his associate. For nearly ten months the pen of J. R. Barrick illuminated the columns of the *Constitution* and helped to give that paper the instant popularity and influence that marked its early issues. Unfortunately the brilliant mind of Barrick was supported by a frail body, and he succumbed to the ravages of consumption on April 30, 1869, at 40 years of age. He is buried beneath a modest tablet in Oakland Cemetery, only a few steps from the last resting place of first mayor Moses W. Formwalt.[78]

The keen business judgment of W. A. Hemphill and the editorial capacity of Edward Y. Clarke and Nathaniel P. T. Finch carried the *Constitution* safely through the turbulent financial waters of the early seventies. On October 18, 1876, an interest in the constitution was brought by Captain Evan P. Howell, a son of Judge Clark Howell, of Howell's Mill. Since that time, under three generations of the Howell family, the paper has enjoyed steady progress. Its business affairs continued under the skillful direction of Mr. Hemphill until his death in 1902, at which time he was succeeded by the late Roby Robinson, Sr.[79]* The many brilliant and able writers, from Henry W. Grady to Ralph McGill, whose efforts have carried the fame and prestige of the Atlanta *Constitution* far and wide, will be introduced in succeeding chapters.

For the first time since 1848, the year of its initial municipal election, Atlanta missed this annual event in 1868. By order of the commandant, General Pope, the mayor and council of 1867 were held over. Consequently Mayor Williams and his associates had another rugged year in office.[80]

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*In January, 1902, eight months before his death, Mr. Hemphill retired and sold his controling interest in the *Constitution* to Clark Howell, Sr., son of Evan P. Howell. Thereupon Mr. Howell succeeded Mr. Hemphill as President of the Constitution Publishing Company. Roby Robinson succeeded to Hemphill's dual position of business manager.

In addition to the matter of the Capitol removal, which occupied considerable time and attention on the part of Council for 1868, other matters were also looked after. During January the thanks of the body were tendered to Campbell Wallace, superintendent of the W. & A. R. R., for 15 carloads of wood donated for the benefit of the suffering poor of the city. L. P. Grant, Superintendent of the Atlanta & West Point, was also thanked for a train-load of wood, donated for the same purpose.[81]

On February 14th an ordinance was adopted requiring that the fine for violating liquor laws, or selling without license, shall be not less than $25, one-half to go to the informer. Mayor Williams opposed this enactment. On September 11th a contract was made with John T. Glenn for codifying City ordinances, while later in the month, the City, at the request of Messrs. Ezzard and Dunwoody, relinquished all claim to interest in the Roswell bridge over the Chattahoochee River. The Negro vote was legalized by ordinance adopted November 26th, and, on December 11th the City subscribed $300,000 to the Georgia Western Railroad,[82] the amount to take the place of $250,000 subscribed in 1860.[83]

That lawlessness in general was a major problem of the City Fathers of 1868 is indicated by the letters of school teacher Elizabeth Sterchi. On June 28th, she wrote:[84]

". . . The garrison here is a great temptation for them [her scholars], the soldiers are lions looking for poor sheep to devour, and give me great trouble. Last week two young girls of my school succumbed to the temptation. . . ."

Again on August 17th:[85]

". . . There is no hope of seeing the soldiers go, they have made headquarters at West End,[86] a little village suburb of Atlanta, which I believe is already incorporated in the great capital.[87]

"Atlanta is more or less round, and about three miles in diameter. Taking the thickness of 3/4 of a mile in circle all around, this circle, or ribbon if you will, is crowded with poor people piled the one upon the other, perfect heathen in a civilized country, with the most savage tastes, fighting, murdering, stealing, quarreling, begging, swearing, drinking, and possessing the most abject ideas of life—they are beasts with a soul. They know not here exactly how to manage them. . . .

"They go to a certain Rev. Speleman, Yanky (*sic*) nutmeg character, who marries them whether they elope or not, and causes with his elastic-rubber conscience a perfect misery. . . .

"We have a lottery here which helps also to do evil; the Opera House has made great progress, it will be finished soon.

"The Germans have a beer-garden, where there is dancing every week, sometimes every night—it seems to me that the devil has taken hold of this place; The Negroes also have dancing and drinking. It is every day worse and worse. Gambling and houses of infamy are in the face of the new large brick buildings in the main streets, and nobody is ashamed of it.

"They speak of Berlin, Paris and London. Atlanta can very soon beat them, it is a little New York since the rail-road is terminated. It is just the middle point between New York and New Orleans. Like a polyp it extends its arms in every direction."[88]

Even though direct military rule had been withdrawn, and General Meade had departed the city in August, 1868, the garrison at McPherson Barracks continued to be a source of some annoyance to the citizens and civil authorities.

The so-called "Fourth Ward Riot," in October, furnishes an illustration. It was described by a contemporary writer:[89]

"Last night [Oct. 15th] some twelve or fifteen Federal soldiers who had been for several hours previous engaged in the innocent pastime of upsetting chicken-coops, pulling down freedmen's fences, unhinging gates and kicking up a mess generally about the premises of peaceful citizens, came to the very natural conclusion that the city belonged to them, and that they had a right to do just what they pleased, the prerogatives of municipal authority to the contrary notwithstanding.

"About 2 o'clock they turned up in the neighborhood of Newman's brick-yard, in the Fourth ward [near present intersection of Gilmer and Pratt streets], and performed the wonderful feat of running one Clark's (freedman) wagon, with fearful speed, down an adjacent declivity, much to the amusement of that humble individual. The residence of Captain [W. G.] Newman next received a friendly visit from these *peace*-makers of General Grant, but upon that gentleman's appearance, the night birds had followed the example of the Irishman's flea.

"At this stage of the game, four of the city police arrived on the field, whereupon the stirring notes of 'rally, boys, rally!' were sounded amid the ranks of the *peace*-makers. The call had the instantaneous effect of bringing these well-disciplined troops together, and in less time than it takes to tell it, they were arrayed in line of battle, and with the cry of 'let us have peace,' commenced firing into the ranks of the four policemen. These latter, surprised by superior numbers, and threatened with the prospect of almost certain defeat, might have taken 'leg bail' without serious damage to their reputation as 'men of honor,' but, we are told, that such a course, under the peculiar circumstances, would have been attended with more danger than a 'square-up' fight. The four policemen, therefore stood firm, and, as might have been expected, returned the fire as rapidly and with as sure aim as possible. The contest lasted but a few minutes, during which there were perhaps some thirty shots exchanged between the twelve or thirteen *peace*-makers on the one side, and the four representatives of municipal authority on the other. To make the story short, the military found it necessary to skeedaddle, leaving one man severely wounded upon the battlefield, while two more, who had tasted lead—the one in the hand and the other in the leg—escaped with the rest. The individual left on the ground, was shot in the cheek, the ball ranging around to the back of the neck. He was kindly cared for by Captain Newman until assistance could arrive from the camps.

"The above are substantially the facts as related to us by several parties who were in the immediate vicinity of the scene with ample opportunities of knowing the truth. Let us have peace."

Under normal circumstances an election for County officers would have been held early in 1868. It was not until later in the year, however, after the restoration of civil authority, that any changes were made in the official families of either Fulton or De Kalb. In the latter county, during August, James S. Wilson became Ordinary; H. J. Williams, Clerk Superior Court; James R. Smith, Sheriff, and John N. Pate, Treasurer, succeeding himself. In September, J. W. Nash qualified as Tax Receiver, and H. V. Bayne, as Tax Collector. Henry Jackson held over as Coroner and Robert Jones as Surveyor.[90]

In Fulton, J. M. Harwell had been appointed Tax Collector, succeeding John R. L. Wilson, on March 16th. On August 8th, James O. Harris qualified as Sheriff in lieu of Benjamin N. Williford. Daniel Pittman and William R.

Venable, in September, succeeded themselves as Ordinary and Clerk, Superior Court, respectively. In October, Columbus M. Payne qualified as Treasurer; B. F. Thigpen, as Surveyor, and William Kile as Coroner.[91]

Grand juries for both counties functioned as usual during 1868, though Fulton presentments for the year are not available. Superior Court Minute Book F, covering the period from late October, 1867 to March, 1869, has been missing for many years. In De Kalb, the grand jury for the October term, 1868, turned in the following presentments:

"1st. In Committee of the whole we have examined the Jail of the County and find it to be in a very unsafe condition. We recommend that the Court House be whitewashed on the inside and any other repairs that are absolutely necessary to be done.

2nd. In regard to the Roads, we regret to say that we have to report them in very *Bad Condition* over the County and would recommend that the proper authorities have the laws *rigidly* enforced. We also recommend that hands be placed upon the Fayetteville road and they be required to work the same and put it in good order.

3rd. We also report the following Bridges to be in bad, and some of them in a dangerous condition, viz: The Bridges on Snapfinger Creek on the Covington Road. Also McWilliams' Bridge over South River and the Bridge over Shoal Creek. All need repairs very much.

4th. Through a Committee selected from our Body we have, as far as our limited time and opportunity would admit, examined the books of the Sheriff, Ordinary, Clerk and Treasurer, and find them kept in a neat condition.

5th. Under the charge of His Honor to the jury it became necessary for our body to fix the per diem for our services. Therefore we recommend that the Jurors receive Two Dollars per day.

6th. We regret to report that the present condition of our County is not as flourishing and satisfactory as could be wished. The pecuniary affairs, together with the short crops of the present season would seem almost sufficient cause to the more timid to despair. Yet under all these trying circumstances we would counsel our Fellow Citizens to persevere, use the most strict economy and prudence in all our dealings, and hope a brighter day may soon dawn upon our unfortunate and unhappy country.

7th. In taking leave of His Honor Judge J. D. Pope we would return our thanks for the kind, courteous and prompt manner in which he has discharged the various duties of his office. We also tender our thanks to Solicitor General Adams for his prompt and courteous attention to our Body."

JOHN C. RAGSDALE, Foreman.

Isaiah C. Stewart
Robert Cagle
Michael A. Steele
James R. McAllister
Harris Crowley
James T. Cobb
John W. Tuggle
John J. Cowan
Edwin A. Turner
Martin C. McKee
Ezekiel A. Davis

William T. Cobb
Charles H. Spear
Benjamin F. Chapman
James C. Chupp
Benjamin Crowley
William R. Pendley
Angus McLeod
Alexander C. Tuggle
James G. Laird
William S. McLain[92]

While much illicit entertainment was available locally in 1868, most Atlantans of that day had ample opportunity to enjoy themselves upon a higher plane. The legitimate theater was liberally patronized and both Davis Hall and the Bell-Johnson Opera House were the scene of gay throngs nearly every evening. The *Constitution,* on October 21, 1868, informed its readers that:

"TEN NIGHTS IN A BAR ROOM and 'Brother Bill and Me' will be performed tonight at Davis' Theater. The Gilbert Star Company is a great acquisition to Atlanta, and we hope it will continue to be the recipient of liberal patronage. Its performances are *strictly moral.* The most scrupulous could find no fault with them."

Two favorite watering spots of the day were Walton Spring and the Mineral Spring. Both were highly recommended in the news columns of the *Constitution* on July 12th:

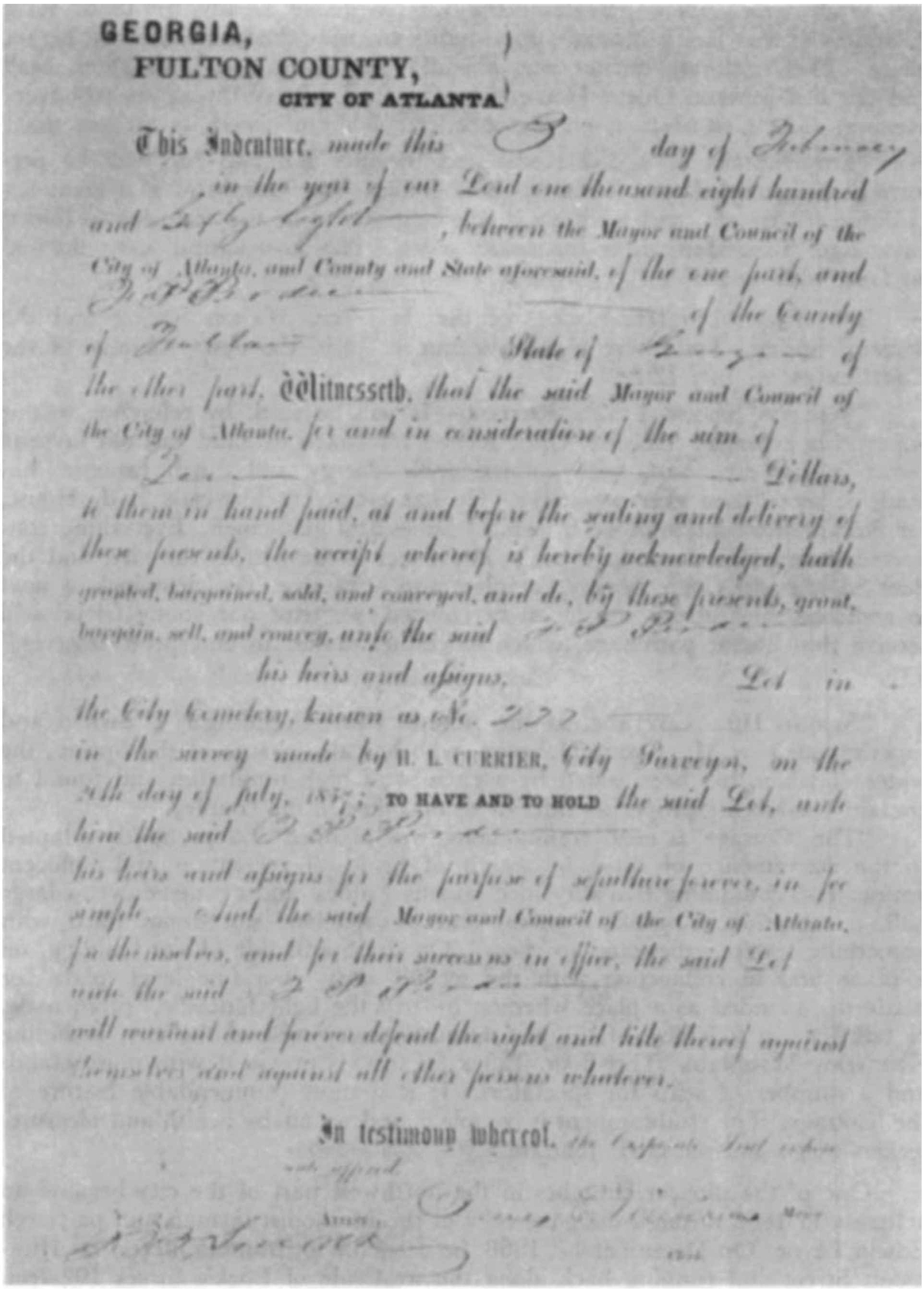
"WALTON SPRING FULLY REVIVED—It will be seen, by reference to our advertising columns, that Mr. C. S. Reeves has taken in hand this old favorite resort in our city, and, with commendable energy and much expense, has made it more than ever attractive. He has erected a first-class Bath House, for the accommodation of both (white) ladies and gentlemen. Everything connected therewith is 'neat as a pin.' The water is the best in the city, and the Beer Saloon and Confectionery complete and attractive. As 'cleanliness is next to godliness' and health worthy to be courted, we trust our young friend will receive that liberal patronage, which so commendable an enterprise deserves."

"SPRING HILL COTTAGE, at the Atlanta Mineral Spring,[93] is owned and superintended by Mr. George Johnson, who has also charge of the Spring, the water of which has been tested by a chemist of high reputation and found to contain Chalybeate properties inferior to no other in the country.

"The 'Cottage' is neat, commodious, well-planned and peculiarly adapted to the convenience of those in search of healthful recreation and innocent amusement, containing two very nice saloons (ladies' and gentlemen's), a large hall, a reception, a smoking room, and a capacious store-room filled with 'something to strengthen and to cheer.' On the South side of the building, on a plane and in connection with the second story, is a fine level 'plaza' or platform, intended as a place whereon to 'trip the light fantastic,' promenade, or talk love in full view of the picturesque scenery west of the city, including Kennesaw Mountain. This floor, 125 x 50 feet, is provided with music-stands and a number of seats for spectators. It is a most commendable feature of the 'Cottage.' The establishment is complete, and we advise health and pleasure-seekers to go and see Geo. Johnson."

One of the pioneer churches in the northwest part of the city became an actuality in 1868 through the generosity of the Methodist layman and patriarch Edwin Payne. On December 17, 1868, he deeded a lot fronting 80 feet on Hunnicutt Street and running back along the west side of Luckie Street 192 feet, to John L. Hopkins, J. G. W. Mills, W. F. Harris, W. W. McAfee and Columbus A. Pitts, as trustees for Payne's Chapel Church. The deed recited the consideration as: "Love I bear the Christian religion, and that my son, Edwin T. Payne, shall be appointed a trustee of the property herein described, when he shall have arrived at the age of 21 years."[94]

By July, 1869, the new church, under Rev. W. G. Dunlap, had a membership of 146 and the Sunday-school 140 scholars. In 1892 the original build-



GEORGIA,
FULTON COUNTY,
CITY OF ATLANTA.

This Indenture, made this 3 day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty eight, between the Mayor and Council of the City of Atlanta, and County and State aforesaid, of the one part, and F. P. Perdue of the County of Fulton State of Georgia of the other part, Witnesseth, that the said Mayor and Council of the City of Atlanta, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, to them in hand paid, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained, sold, and conveyed, and do, by these presents, grant, bargain, sell, and convey, unto the said F. P. Perdue his heirs and assigns, Lot in the City Cemetery, known as No. 222 in the survey made by H. L. CURRIER, City Surveyor, on the 24th day of July, 1857; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Lot, unto him the said F. P. Perdue his heirs and assigns for the purpose of sepulture forever, in fee simple. And the said Mayor and Council of the City of Atlanta, for themselves, and for their successors in office, the said Lot unto the said F. P. Perdue will warrant and forever defend the right and title thereof against themselves and against all other persons whatever.

In testimony whereof, the Corporate Seal is hereunto affixed.

James E. Williams Mayor

Attest,

S. B. Love

Clerk

The pioneer citizens who purchased lots in historic Oakland Cemetery acquired their deeds from the City of Atlanta rather than from a private company. Above is a typical deed, issued to Rev. Francis P. Perdue (1822-1886) on Feb. 3, 1868, and signed by James E. Williams, reconstruction mayor, and S. B. Love, city clerk. The Rev. Mr. Perdue was the father of the late John A. Perdue, senior member of the insurance firm of Perdue and Egleston. At the time of issuance of the above deed Oakland was known as the City Cemetery.

ing was replaced by a neat red brick structure, and on January 8, 1895, by action of the trustees, the institution ceased to be a "chapel," and became the Payne Memorial Church.[95] In 1951 the weathered, slate-roofed building was torn down and another of Atlanta's landmarks ceased to exist.

Eighteen sixty-eight took the usual toll of pioneer and prominent citizens. Among those who died during the year were Benjamin F. Bomar, aged 52, second mayor of Atlanta and first clerk of the Fulton County Superior Court; Rev. Lewis Lawshe, age 51, a native of Pennsylvania, Master of Atlanta Lodge No. 59, F. & A. M., whose home in southwest Atlanta was long a landmark, and for whom Lawshe Street is named; Moses Holland, age 62, father of the late J. Sid Holland, and founder of a well-known and useful Atlanta family; Gersham Larendon, 64 born in Wilmington, N. C., and long a resident of Charleston, S. C., before coming to Atlanta in 1861, and among whose children were the late Walter S. Larendon and Mrs. Vardy P. Sisson, of Atlanta. General and Professor W. Pink Howard, 50, died suddenly in Athens, Alabama, on August 4th. He was noted as one of the finest musical scholars in the State and was Professor of Music in the Atlanta Classical College. Others during the year were William Herring, 69, pioneer dry goods merchant and builder of the noted "Leyden House"; Herman Braumuller, 52, native of Prussia and early Atlanta dealer in musical instruments; William G. Peters, 45, a younger brother of Richard, and Rev. Father J. F. O'Neill, Jr., in Baltimore, on November 7th. Father O'Neill was the first regularly appointed pastor of the Parish of the Immaculate Conception in Atlanta, having been so designated on February 13, 1851. All of these deceased citizens are buried in Oakland Cemetery, with the exception of Father O'Neill who was interred on the family lot in Locust Grove, Georgia.[96]

The tax returns of a city, show to some extent its growth and the resources of its citizens. Insofar as Atlanta is concerned the rapid accumulation of wealth by individuals did not manifest itself to a marked degree until the war and reconstruction period. By 1868 a total of 30 persons in Atlanta were paying taxes on personal estates valued at $25,000 or more, based primarily on city real estate. They were:[97]

Nedom L. Angier	$34,700	Allen E. Johnson Estate	$25,000
Alfred Austell	49,700	William Kidd	28,400
Joseph E. Brown	40,000	H. Muhlenbrink	25,000
Marcus A. Bell	27,650	Alexander W. Mitchell	32,200
Henry Banks	29,000	Jonathan Norcross	25,600
Robert M. Clarke	30,150	Richard Peters	97,700
John Collier	46,000	Thomas E. Poullain	40,000
F. N. Chisholm	35,000	John Ryan	42,100
James Clarke	38,000	Edward E. Rawson	86,200
James H. Callaway	34,000	Sidney Root	25,000
C. W. Dill Trustee for Gardner	37,500	Lewis Scofield	97,000
James C. Davis	29,000	Alvin K. Seago	31,600
John Ficken	28,500	William Solomon	32,500
George Gibbon	26,600	Joseph Thompson	52,900
Lemuel P. Grant	88,900	Dr. F. D. Thurman	27,000
Edmund W. Holland	28,500	Levi C. Wells	29,600
Thomas G. Healey	24,900	Mrs. Caroline Williams Guardian	29,600
Peter Huge	30,000	Mrs. Laura Williams (widow of Ammi)	26,000
William Herring	34,000		

Before taking leave of 1868, some of S. P. Richards' miscellaneous observations, as recorded in his ever-present diary will serve to throw a few extra beams of light upon a turbulent year:

"Jan. 5. This first Sabbath of the year, a new scholar joined my class, Master Henry R. Durand,[98] a lad 14 years of age who last Wed. night joined our church by experience albeit his parents are Presbyterians."

"May 10. This has been a beautiful day, and the Ladies' Memorial Association observed the annual ceremony of decorating with flowers and wreaths the graves of the Confederate Dead. A large concourse of people thronged the Grave Yard this afternoon and many a votive offering of flowers was deposited on the last resting place of the Soldiers of the 'Lost Cause.' A photographic picture was taken of the scene from the lofty top of Mr. Jack's bread wagon! It has been a debatable point whether it was right to observe this ceremony on Sunday, and the Elders of the Central Presbyterian Church prohibited their people in church this morning from partaking in it. But still many of them went, and I do not think they were wrong. There was no more hilarity or noise than there might have been upon any funeral occasion."

"May 31. . . . Radical Congress has finally failed in their scheme to impeach and remove the President [Andrew Johnson]. Some honest men of their party voted against conviction and he was saved by *one vote* only. It was a nefarious attempt."

"Oct. 3. Yesterday the side wall of a large store, being undermined by workmen digging for a cellar for a new building—fell—and great was the fall of it. Fortunately no one was killed although two men were at the desk in the back of the store and they went down with the wreck and were covered up but managed to crawl out not much hurt."[99]

"Oct. 17. I have been on the Grand Jury all the week and have earned $12 for services, as Jurors are now paid so much per diem. There is a good deal of crime and wickedness committed now. The jail is full of criminals. There are more of them *black* than white."

"Dec. 31. We have had foggy, cloudy weather all the week and tonight it is raining and has been all day. . . . The Old Year is going out in a very glum way. I should like much to see the new one come in in a more genial humor. . . ."

NOTES—CHAPTER 46

[1] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 189.

[2] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 264.

[3] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 190; Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 264-265.

[4] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 191; *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 29, 1896; City Directories, 1871-1896.

[5] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 265; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 192.

[6] Adelaide L. Fries, ed., "The Elizabeth Sterchi Letters," *A.H.B.,* XXI (April, 1940), 116.

[7] Reed, *Atlanta,* 234.

[8] *Ibid.,* 233.

[9] *Ibid.,* 234; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 669.

[10] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 178-179.

[11] Reed, *Atlanta,* 236.

[12] Allen P. Tankersley, "John B. Gordon, A Study in Gallantry," 352 (an unpublished MS in the files of the Atlanta Historical Society).

[13] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 179-180; Reed, *Atlanta,* 237.

[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 237.

[15] *The National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* I, 229.

[16] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 179-180.

[17] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 105.

[18] *Ibid.,* 105-106.

[19] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 201-202.

[20] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 384.

[21] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* I, 229. James D. Reid, *The Telegraph in America and Morse Memorial* (New York, 1886), 457.

[22] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 271.

[23] Tankersley, "John B. Gordon," 355.

[24] *Ibid.,* 356-357.

[25] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 199, 206.

[26] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 232.

[27] Reed, *Atlanta,* 239.

[28] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 204.

[29] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 267-271; Tankersley, "John B. Gordon," 353-354.

[30] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 382.

[31] Reed, *Atlanta,* 239-240.

[32] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 30, 1868.

[33] *Ibid.,* July 4, 1868.

[34] July 5, 1868.

[35] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 5, 1868.

[36] Bullock was not actually inaugurated until July 22nd.

[37] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 19, 1868; "Garrett's Necrology."

[38] Reed, *Atlanta,* 240-241; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 185.

[39] *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 4, 1868, *et seq.*

[40] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 272; Reed, *Atlanta,* 241; "Garrett's Necrology."

[41] Corner Alabama and Pryor streets.

[42] Reed, *Atlanta,* 241.

[43] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 272.

[44] 39 *Ga. Reports,* 232, "White *vs.* Clements."

[45] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 273.

[46] Keller, *Dictionary of Dates,* II, 174; *Appleton's Cyclopedia of American Biography,* I, 280; V, 477.

[47] Reed, *Atlanta,* 238.

[48] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 391-392.

[49] Southeast corner Alabama and Pryor streets.

[50] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 23, 1868.

[51] And one of his last. He died Oct. 9, 1868.

[52] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 23, 1868.

[53] Northern, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia,* III, 346.

[54] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 24, 1868.

[55] *Ibid.*

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] Reed, *Atlanta,* 241; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 205.

[58] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 273.

[59] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 106-107.

[60] Reed, *Atlanta,* Part II, 162; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 671; Eugene M. Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball; His Career and Defense," *A.H.B.,* XV (Oct. 1938), 251, 252.

[61] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1867, Book E.

[62] Mitchell; "H. I. Kimball," *loc. cit.*

[63] *Ibid.,* 253; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 107.

[64] Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball," *loc. cit.;* Avery, *History of Georgia,* 413.

[65] Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball," *loc. cit.,* 254.

[66] *Cf.* Avery, *History of Georgia,* 445-446.

[67] Raymond B. Nixon, "Constitution's Founder Fought For Georgia With Pen and Sword," *Atlanta Constitution,* June 17, 1945.

[68] *Ibid.*

[69] *Ibid.*

[70] *Ibid.*

[71] *Ibid.*

[72] *Ibid.*

[73] *Ibid.*

[74] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 11, 1868.

[75] Nixon, *loc. cit.*

[76] *Ibid.*

[77] *Ibid.*

[78] Sam W. Small, "First Editor of *The Constitution* a Noted Poet, Philosopher, Publicist," *Atlanta Constitution Magazine,* Aug. 22, 1926; *City Directory,* 1867; "Garrett's Necrology."

[79] Nixon, *loc. cit.; City Directories,* 1870-1903.

[80] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 104.

[81] *Ibid.,* 105.

[82] Now Southern Railway, Atlanta to Birmingham.

[83] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 107-108.

[84] To Bishop Bahnson, *A.H.B.,* XXI (Apr. 1940), 120.

[85] *Ibid.,* 123.

[86] Referring to McPherson Barracks.

[87] Incorporated as a separate town in 1868—not as part of Atlanta.

[88] Miss Sterchi probably referred to the Atlanta and Charlotte, or Georgia Air Line Railroad (now Southern), projected before the war and resumed in 1868. It was not completed until 1873.

[89] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 16, 1868.

[90] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[91] *Ibid.*

[92] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1868, Book D.

[93] The Mineral Spring was located just west of the old Monroe embankment between Hunter and Rhodes streets, and on land now occupied by the Atlanta Gas Light Company's tanks at the north end of the Terminal Station butterfly train sheds, *Hopkins' Atlas.* Plate D.

[94] Ralph Smith, "In Crackerland," *Atlanta Journal,* Dec. 15, 1930.

[95] *Ibid.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 382.

[96] "Garrett's Necrology."

[97] Stephens Mitchell, "A Comparison of Tax Returns for the Years 1868-1909-1936," *A.H.B.,* X (July, 1937), 15-19.

[98] Later Atlanta's best-known restaurateur.

[99] The building, on Decatur Street and known as the Phoenix Building, was occupied by William M. Williams & Brother, commission merchants. The Messrs. Wm. M. and Samuel C. Williams were badly shaken up. *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 3, 1868.

CHAPTER 47

1869

ON NOVEMBER 14, 1868, S. P. Richards recorded in his diary: "... Considerable excitement has been manifested today in town at the *nomination* of a candidate for Mayor. I voted for E. E. Rawson, but he was beaten by a young man Hulsey, only 28 years old I am told. . . ."

There was indeed a degree of excitement over the forthcoming municipal election, the first since late 1866, for the city was, temporarily at least, free from military rule, and the city fathers were being left to their own devices.

The election, held on December 2, 1868, resulted in the choice of William H. Hulsey, age 29, as mayor, the youngest chief executive of the city since 28-year-old Moses W. Formwalt in 1848. Young Hulsey was also the second native of De Kalb County to hold the office, the other having been Allison Nelson in 1855. The new mayor was a lawyer by profession, and was born in 1839, the son of Eli J. and Charlotte Collier Hulsey, and grandson of pioneer settlers Jennings Hulsey and Merrell Collier. William H. Hulsey studied law in the office of Ezzard and Collier and was admitted to the bar in 1859, whereupon he moved to Mitchell County to practice. The war soon interposed an obstacle to his legal career, and in April, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Sixth Georgia Infantry, then commanded by Colonel Alfred H. Colquitt. Before the war ended the young soldier had been severely wounded at the battle of Nashville, and had risen to Colonel of the Forty-second Georgia Infantry, one of the most valiant to take the field. After the war he resided for some months in Houston County, but subsequently returned to Atlanta and formed a law partnership with his old preceptor, William Ezzard. Soon thereafter he was elected solicitor-general of the Coweta circuit, but after eighteen months was removed by Governor Bullock for partisan reasons.[1]

Councilmen elected to serve with Mayor Hulsey were:

First Ward, John P. Mays and William H. Brotherton.
Second Ward, Dr. E. J. Roach and Dr. D. C. O'Keefe.
Third Ward, Vardy P. Sisson and William C. Anderson.
Fourth Ward, Evan P. Howell and Michael Mahoney.
Fifth Ward, Samuel R. McCamy and Elias R. Carr.[2]

Ministerial officers elected by the Council of 1869 were: Clerk, Seymour B. Love; treasurer, W. W. Clayton; attorney, Reuben Arnold; tax receiver and collector, L. P. Thomas; city physicians, Drs. Charles Pinckney and E. S. Ray; superintendent of streets, George Stewart; marshal, John Thomas; deputy marshal, E. C. Murphy; first lieutenant of police, John L. Johnson; second lieutenant of police, G. Whitfield Anderson; surveyor, W. B. Bass, and hall-keeper, Patrick Fitzgibbon.[3]

As his term of office ended after three hectic years, during which time the mere keeping of order was a major problem, Mayor James E. Williams, on January 1, 1869, paid a glowing tribute to the police of the city. He said:

"I point with pride to your police. A more delicate or more difficult task has seldom been imposed than was that of preserving the peace of the city during the years last past. One of the alarming evils, consequent upon the war, was the lessening of respect for law, and particularly for municipal law. A large military force was located in and around the city, a formidable element of population then newly introduced to freedom, gathered in and aspired to the control of society. Political strife followed, and all the dangerous material was fanned almost to a flame. I have often seen the time when even slight indiscretion might have given the city over to riot and bloodshed. But with the lofty purpose of faithfully discharging a high public duty, thirty men, including officers, by the exercise of patience, firmness, kindness and courage, faithfully enforced the law, and we have been saved from scenes that have darkened and saddened in other quarters. To the police of this city the people owe a debt of everlasting gratitude. . . ."[4]

Mayor Williams also turned over a solvent city to his successor. The city clerk reported that the receipts of his office for the year ending December 31, 1868, were $253,912.54, and disbursements, $212,187.77. The treasurer's report for the same period exhibited receipts of $409,325.56 and disbursements of $407,709.30. The bonded debt of the city stood at $397,350.[5]

One of the first major expenditures of the Hulsey administration was occasioned by the obsolescence and inadequacy of the old Fair grounds on Fair Street, in use, off and on, since 1850. On March 30, 1869, the city purchased from Dr. Chapman Powell, for $112.50 per acre, 42¼ acres in Land Lot 112 of the 14th District, and 5 acres adjoining, from E. R. Sasseen, for $100 per acre. This property, now the site of the Exposition Cotton Mills on Marietta Street, was described at the time as being located "on the Western & Atlantic Railroad, about 300 yards beyond the first water station, two miles from the passenger depot." The grounds were developed for the use of the State Agricultural Association and named Oglethorpe Park.[6] The park was destined to be the site of many fairs and, more than a decade later, a notable exposition.

In April, 1869, Atlanta secured both a new Post Office and a new Postmaster. The office was located in the recently completed State House at Marietta and Forsyth streets. Thomas G. Simms, Postmaster since 1865, was succeeded by a Grant appointee, pioneer citizen James L. Dunning, who, though of Republican sympathies politically, and not therefore, universally popular, was to make a propressive and efficient overseer of the local mails.[7]

The Kimball brothers made good on their promise to have the erstwhile opera house on Marietta Street ready for the Legislature in January, 1869. S. P. Richards attended the public opening of the building on the evening of Tuesday, January 12th, and recorded the event in his diary on the same date:

"The New 'Opera House' which has been fitted up for the Capitol of the state was tonight opened for the reception of visitors. The Legislature is to be in session tomorrow. Sallie and I went to see the sight and so did everybody else and *their wife*. There was a crowd there and the building was well worth seeing and fine music added to the attractions. It was filled 'regardless of expense' apparently."

The *Constitution,* on the morning of January 13th, favored its readers with a more comprehensive description of the preceding evening, under the heading, "OPENING OF KIMBALL'S OPERA HOUSE."

"Last evening presented a scene long to be remembered by our citizens who had the pleasure of being present at the opening of the 'so-called' Opera House, which, from dome to basement, was brilliantly illuminated with gas.

The exterior of the edifice presented a perfect blaze of light that arrested the attention of every passerby, and the immense throng of people who were hurrying toward the building gave evidence that everybody, and his wife, if not invited, were quite sure to be present on the night of opening this beautiful establishment.

"Attentive officers at the door received the tickets of admission, which bore upon them the words—

COMPLIMENTARY

KIMBALL'S OPERA HOUSE OPENING

Admit one Gentleman and Ladies

"But, so far as the tickets were concerned, the officers in charge used their own discretion, admitting every man who indulged in the luxury of a 'biled shirt,' and whose facial indications did not stamp him with the mark of having, at some time of his life, been a regular graduate of that highly popular institution, the Georgia penitentiary.

"The stair-case resembled the Jacob's Ladder mentioned in Holy Writ, as angelic forms were ascending and descending continuously. We had no idea that so much feminine loveliness could be found within the limits of the State, yet there they were smiling, happy and joyous—delighted with themselves and all around them.

"Entering the House of Representatives, the ear was delighted with the sweetest music produced by the military band of this post; who, we venture to assert have no superior in the Army of the United States. Immediately above their head was the full length portrait of that brave old military chieftan and peerless gentleman, 'Old Hickory,' a man whose name will never, never die.

"The house is brilliantly lighted by a circular of gas jets some thirty feet from the floor, and at least fifteen feet in its diameter. All around these jets was placed a fluted glass mirror, that threw the bright rays of light completely over the room, rendering all side lights completely unnecessary. The fresco work on the ceiling, and indeed all over the room, was really magnificent, and elicited loud marks of approval from all who visited the building.

"The Senate Chamber is very beautiful, though not so imposing as the House of Representatives. Over the seat of the President of the Senate, is a full length portrait of George Washington, the first rebel known in American history, from the celebrated painting of Gilbert Stuart. It is very beautiful, and an ornament to the Senate Chamber.

"The Supreme Court Library contains two full length portraits; the one on the left of the Hall representing Benjamin Franklin, the Printer, Philosopher and Statesman, and the other, on the right, of the gallant Lafayette.

"The committee rooms deserve especial notice for the extreme good taste in which they have been arranged, but the apartments upstairs, the doors of which were all marked: 'Sleeping Room—For Rent,' were in bad taste to say the least of it. They might very properly have been reserved for the use of the attaches of the building, but the idea of making a cheap lodging house out of the top of so elegant a building seems really absurd.

"Among all the visitors, and their name was legion, we did not meet one that did not seem pleased and delighted with all they saw around them. It was one of the most charming re-unions we have seen for a long time and we are happy to learn that not the slightest accident occurred to mar the pleasures of the evening."

"The Messrs. Kimball have displayed a tremendous energy in the matter; and certain it is, that this colossal edifice is ready for the Legislature—is very nearly completed, and is an ornament and architectural achievement of which not only Atlanta, but the state may justly be proud."

The Legislature met promptly on schedule the following day, but the splendor of the new quarters could not hide the ominous cloud that hung over its deliberations.

In late July, 1868, when military rule under the reconstruction acts had been declared ended, it seemed that the stormy voyage to the promised land of sovereign restoration had been accomplished.

David G. Cotting was elected Secretary of State; Madison Bell, Comptroller-General; N. L. Angier, Treasurer, and Dr. Samuel Bard, Public Printer. Joshua Hill and Dr. H. V. M. Miller won the senatorial seats for Georgia, and not long afterward Joseph E. Brown was appointed by Governor Bullock, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia.[8]

Then, in September, 1868, the Legislature pulled its grand *coup d'état* by expelling all of its Negro members. The move naturally brought great satisfaction to Southern Democrats, but diplomatically was a colossal blunder. It was the immediate cause of the imposition of a new installment of the ever-shifting reconstruction of the state. While the resolution of expulsion was pending, G. H. Clower, a Negro member expostulated:

> "Whenever you cast your votes against us, dis nigger will take his hat and walk right straight out, but, like Christ, I shall come again. I go to prepare a place for them. Stop, Democrats; stop, white folks! Draw de resolution off de table, and lets go to work."[9]

Another colored member, Romulus Moore, closed his remarks with the following assertion:

> "If God is pleased with the Constitutional amendment, you can't change it—you can't change it unless you can overcome the armies of the United States."[10]

Both Negroes were better prophets than they knew.

Governor Bullock opposed the Negro expulsion bill vigorously, and closed his message on the subject in the following strong language:

> "In conclusion I most respectfully and earnestly call upon you, as lovers of our common country, and well-wishers of the peace and good order of the State, to pause in the suicidal course upon which you have entered, urged on, as you are, by bold, bad men outside your body, whose wicked counsels have once drenched our land in blood, and whose ambition now is to ruin that which they cannot rule."[11]

All the Governor got for his pains was a stiff rebuke for interfering in a matter in which the House was, by the Constitution, made sole judge. The honorable members would choose their own company and would be the keepers of their own consciences. Unfortunately, in 1868, they were not the keepers of the State of Georgia, a function at that time being exercised by the Congress of the United States.[12]

This body, through late 1868, viewed with alarm the course of events in Georgia, for the Radical members could plainly see that the State was not being reconstructed according to their lights. The Senate had not admitted Georgia's members, Hill and Miller, and it was not until after March 4, 1869, that the House of Representatives seated the Georgia members elected in 1868. Meanwhile, in December, 1868, Senator Charles Sumner introduced a bill for a further reconstruction of Georgia.[13]

The implacable Reconstruction Committee of Congress took the Sumner bill in hand, and throughout 1869 heard extensive and conflicting evidence on conditions prevailing in the State. The Legislature, in Atlanta, adjourned on March 18, 1869, after voting against the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment.[14] Using the failure of the Amendment to pass, as an argument to support his bid for the restablishment of military rule in Georgia, Governor Bullock went to Washington and appeared before the Reconstruction Committee. He contended that Federal troops were needed to preserve order and argued for the reorganization of Georgia under the test oath that would exclude a number of white members from the Legislature and reinstate the Negroes who had been expelled. Congress, however, was equivocal on its stand as regarded Georgia until it developed that her vote was needed for the passage of the much debated Fifteenth Amendment. Thereupon, on December 22, 1869, the Georgia bill remanded the State to military jurisdiction under the Reconstruction Acts of 1867, with the added requirement that the Fifteenth Amendment be ratified as a condition of her readmission to the Union.[15]

On this fateful December 22nd, the *Constitution* editorialized:

> "Georgia Re-reconstructed.
>
> "The telegraph brings us the unwelcome news that Gov. Bullock's revolutionary movement has been successful. The House completed the work begun by the Senate. Of course Grant will approve the measure he recommended:
>
> "We have not time to say more before going to press than that, while we regard the measure as an unspeakable evil, we are not dismayed, and with trust in God, and a hope of better times, when virtuous men shall rule us, we shall do our best to maintain the interest and welfare of Georgia in her travail and humiliation."

A day or two later Governor Bullock issued a call for the Legislature to convene on Jan. 10, 1870, signing the proclamation as "Provisional Governor." At the same time General Alfred H. Terry was announced from Washington as commander of the district of Georgia, under the Reconstruction Acts, instead of as Department commander, in order to give him civil authority.[16] His headquarters were designated as Atlanta. A number of local citizens accepted the situation immediately by dating their letters "Terry-tory of Georgia."[17]

Georgia's third military commander, Alfred Howe Terry was born in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1827, and was a lawyer turned soldier. He took the field as soon as the war started in 1861 and the following year was made brigadier-general of volunteers. His most brilliant exploit during the conflict was the assault and capture of Fort Fisher at the mouth of the Cape Fear River on January 15, 1865. This victory secured for him a national reputation and a vote of thanks from Congress.[18]

Far from completing the voyage to the promised land of sovereign restoration, the State of Georgia had yet to cross some treacherous reefs. Eighteen-seventy was destined to be a hard year. Meanwhile, in spite of political turmoil, life went on at a rapid clip in the Atlanta area of 1869.

The De Kalb County grand jury for the March term, 1869 commented on roads and bridges, expressed pleasure at improved morals, and castigated the current Legislature. It said, in part:

". . . We find the Roads in the Northern portion of the County in bad condition and recommend the proper authorities to have the road leading from Decatur to Old Cross Keys put in good order, and bridge built over the North prong of Peachtree Creek on said road. . . .

"We feel proud to report that but few misdemeanors under the penal and criminal codes have come before our body, and hope the morals of our County may still improve. . . .

"We very much regret to see the disposition manifested so plainly in the last Legislature of the State, of such reckless expenditure of the public funds of the State that have to be raised by the industry of the County. Men who will sit and deliberately vote themselves nine dollars per diem and other officers enormous salaries for services rendered. Believing that such a course, if persisted in, will impoverish and dishearten the people to such an extent, that there is danger of seriously injuring the credit of our noble Old State. We therefore hope the people will be careful in the future to select such men as will be in favor of economy and retrenchment before their constituents, and, in legislative acts will not squander the hard earnings of the people by voting themselves so much money for such little services rendered. . . ."

John W. Scruggs [Mayor of Stone Mountain], Foreman

Richard M. Morris
Shelton H. Campbell
James E. Elam
Francis M. Welborn
John B. Swanton
James R. McAllister
Leandrew Biffle
Samuel T. Corley
Andrew Fergason
John T. C. Wilson
Joseph Owens
Milton C. Lively
George W. Morris
Robert McWilliams
Robert L. Barry
John D. Wells
John R. Mehaffey
Vincent R. Tommey
John T. Willingham
Newton M. Reid
Edwin H. Guess[19]

For the September term, 1869, the grand jurors of De Kalb had personal comfort in mind:

". . . We have also examined the public buildings and find them in much need of repairs. And we are gratified to learn that our worthy Ordinary is taking steps to have them made. But we would say to him, 'be not weary in well doing,' but after having made those repairs, go on and have the jurors' seats in the Court Room cushioned; twenty-four good substantial split bottomed chairs for the Grand Jurors' room, one armed chair for the Solicitor; also one armed chair cushioned for the Judge. . . ."

Edmond J. Bailey, Foreman[20]

Since 1833, the year Hardy Ivy built his pioneer cabin on the future site of Atlanta, the area had been part of the Coweta Judicial Circuit. By Legislative Act, in 1869 the name of this circuit was changed to the Atlanta Circuit, the jurisdiction of which comprised the counties of Fulton, De Kalb and Clayton.[21] The last judge of the old Coweta Circuit was John Collier, of Atlanta, who served from July, 1867 to 1869. The first judge of the new Atlanta Circuit was John D. Pope, who resigned in August, 1870. He was a law partner of Joseph E. Brown, and was born in Cobb County, Georgia, in 1839. In 1872, he moved to St. Louis, and in 1890 to Los Angeles, where he died in 1913. He enjoyed a lucrative law practice in both cities.[22]

The Fulton County grand jury for the May term, 1869 took cognizance of roads, bridges and the poor house in the following language:

"Many of the roads leading into the City, washed by winter rains, are still in very bad condition. The bridges and causeways over Peachtree Creek demand immediate attention. We would point to the necessity of bridging Proctor's Creek on the Turner Ferry Road. The Campbellton Road also requires attention.

"Under the recommendations of previous grand juries, the worn out and timberless tract upon which the Poor House was located [present Gordon Rd.] has been sold and the proceeds reinvested in well timbered land of much better quality for the same purpose. This tract is about seven miles from the city on the Air Line Railroad. Comfortable houses for the Poor have been erected on it. . . ."

John R. Bostwick, Foreman

Nicholas A. McLendon
Rowan A. Randall
Norvell M. Robinson
Samuel M. Inman
Rial B. Hicks
Thomas J. Hightower
Lewis L. Abbott
William C. Austin
Michael E. Maher
John M. C. Reed
James T. Peacock
Edward R. Sasseen
Benjamin E. Crane
William K. Bagby
Jesse C. Holbrook
John W. McCrary
Cornelius P. Cassin
Samuel A. Ivy
Elijah B. Grady
Samuel A. Durand
Cornelius Sheehan[23]

The youngest man on this jury was 26-year-old Sam Inman, a resident of the city for two years, and with his father, Shadrach W. Inman, junior partner in the cotton firm of S. W. Inman & Son. Young Inman was born at Dandridge, in East Tennessee, and, after service in the Confederate Army, lived in Augusta, Georgia, for about a year, coming from there to Atlanta in the spring of 1867. An uncle, Walker P. Inman, first of the name to settle in Atlanta, had arrived in 1862 as Agent of the Bank of Ringgold. The firm of S. W. Inman & Son became, in 1869, S. M. Inman & Company. In a comparatively few years it had become the largest cotton firm in the South, and by the late eighteen-eighties Samuel Martin Inman was being called "Atlanta's ideal citizen." At the time of his death, on January 12, 1915, he had earned the title of "Atlanta's first citizen."[24]

In the early spring of 1869, there arrived in Atlanta another young man, a year older than Sam Inman, who was also to play a stellar role in the business, cultural and philanthropic life of the city. His name was Jacob Elsas, though the local press, in announcing his arrival on April 3rd, as the first sentence of a column titled "Mere Mention," said: "Jacob Elias has transferred his business from Cartersville to Atlanta."[25] Later, as founder of the Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills, there was to be no question as to how he spelled his name.

Elsas was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, of a family whose members had been weavers and dyers of cotton goods since the eighteenth century. Responding to the lure of the new world when a youth of eighteen, Elsas utilized all of his modest savings to cross the ocean, and borrowed a dollar from a fellow passenger in order to complete his trip to Cincinnati, Ohio, where an uncle was engaged in merchandising. With experience gained in the uncle's business, young Jacob came South after the war and rented a log cabin at Cartersville, Georgia, in which he opened a store. He prospered and later built a brick store opposite the court house. Seeking a broader field, his attention was directed to Atlanta, where his arrival was noted though not heralded. One year later his business enterprises were set forth in a full page advertisement in the City Directory of 1870:

ELSAS & BRO.,
PAPER, RAG & HIDE
WAREHOUSE,
NO. 33 DECATUR STREET,
(OLD MASONIC BUILDING, OPPOSITE PARK)
ATLANTA - - - - - - - GEORGIA.

THE HIGHEST PRICE IN CASH PAID FOR DRIED FRUIT
— AND —
Old News and Book Paper, Loose Cotton, Fur Skins,
Beeswax, Tallow, Ginseng, Feathers,
Scrap Iron, Old Metal, &c., &c.

THE STAR STORE.

JACOB ELSAS & CO.,
AGENTS FOR THE
FAIRMOUNT JEANS,
(THE BEST IN USE) AND DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, PIECE GOODS, BOOTS, SHOES,
HATS, NOTIONS, &C.
No. 32 Whitehall Street near Alabama,

JACOB ELSAS
MORRIS ADLER
JULIUS DREYFOOS

ATLANTA, GA.

Not long afterward Mr. Elsas decided to withdraw from the retail field and devote his efforts to manufacturing. Under the firm name Elsas, May and Company, he organized the Southern Bag Factory, which operated for several years at Pryor and Mitchell streets. Later he and his associates purchased a charter, originally obtained from the legislature by H. I. Kimball, for a spinning mill, and, in 1881, established the Fulton Cotton Spinning Company in a new plant on the Georgia Railroad upon land formerly occupied by Atlanta's ante-bellum rolling mill. The plant still occupies its original site, though it grew from a thousand spindles to more than a hundred thousand by the time of Mr. Elsas' death in 1932. Its present name, Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills was adopted in 1889. The civic and philanthropic interests of Jacob Elsas were many, but probably chief among them were Grady Hospital, to the building fund of which he became the initial donor; the Georgia School of Technology and the Hebrew Orphans' Home.[26]

Monday, May 3, 1869, was a gala day for the Atlanta Fire Department, and was the occasion not only for the annual parade of the local department, but for a grand tournament in which companies from Augusta, Rome, Macon and Charleston participated. Never, in fact, since the city had a fire department, had there been such a fine display of engines and companies. Machines were in splendid order and all personnel was handsomely uniformed and ready to enter, with heart and soul, into the exercises of the day.[27]

The tournament was preceeded by a colorful parade which formed on Marietta Street, some 700 being in the line of march. The windows and doors fronting the streets—even the tops of houses, and the sidewalks were crowded with a dense throng. The women waved their handkerchiefs and men and boys cheered as the procession moved along. The verandah in front of Mrs. Overby's boarding house [7 N. Broad St.] was handsomely festooned with flowers and drapery, and from the windows of the Young Men's Library rooms were displayed in large letters, "Welcome." On a line stretched across Broad Street, from the Engine House to Brown's Building, was a flag bearing the inscription, "To all Firemen a hearty welcome." The occasion was enlivened with melody and stirring music by the Military Band, Clark's City Band, the Griffin Band, and the Brown Band belonging to Vigilant No. 3, of Augusta.[28]

After marching through the principal streets, the engines were halted on Marietta Street and made their dispositions for the tournament. The ground for playing was laid off from the cistern in front of the State House to the edge of Broad and Marietta, ropes being stretched all around to hold back the large crowd. Prizes were to be awarded upon the basis of distance that the various engines could throw a stream of water through fifty feet of hose, the contest being divided into two parts, one for hand engines and one for steam engines.[29]

Tallulah Company No. 3, of Atlanta outdistanced all competitors in the hand engine class by throwing a stream of water 221 feet, while in the steamer category Palmetto Company of Charleston attained a distance of 279 feet, beating Atlanta Company No. 1 by eight tenths of a foot. The Rainbow Company No. 1, of Rome, had hard luck. Night closed in before it got up steam.[30]

The gala day closed with a banquet at the old Georgia Railroad Depot, attended by nearly 2000 persons, at which the Atlanta Fire Department was host. Champagne flowed freely and the utmost good feeling was manifested all evening.[31]

The following morning all hands assembled in front of the State House for the distribution of prizes, the companies being formed in a hollow square, with prizes in the center. They were delivered by former mayor Luther J. Glenn in his happiest style. Nearly every fire company received a prize of some description. To Tallulah No. 3 went a fine silver horn for best 2nd class hand engine. It was received by Captain Evan P. Howell, Vice-President of the Company. The Palmetto Company, of Charleston, received a massive silver punch bowl.[32]

Under date of Saturday, May 8th, S. P. Richards noted the firemen's celebration in his diary:

"On Monday last there was a Grand Firemen's Meeting in Atlanta and many Companies from Charleston, Savannah, Augusta and Macon were here as guests, and several fine prizes of silver plate were distributed for various exhibitions of skill and power in *squirting*."

But all was not fun for Atlanta's volunteer firemen of 1869. Several large fires occurred, one before the month of May was out, in which the noted Davis' Hall on Broad Street was destroyed. It happened on the night of May 28th when, fortunately no one was in the building. The *Constitution,* in describing the fire on May 29th, said:

"FIRE.—A large fire occurred last night about ten o'clock. It broke out in A. L. Knight & Co's Fruit Packing Store, under Davis' Hall, and lasted about an hour and a half. The conflagration was fast, fierce and destructive. It caught and burned Mr. Gardner's house, where Mrs. White takes boarders, the cottage where Mr. Davis lives, and a small hut along side of the Hall. We understand the loss to Mr. Davis is complete, he having no insurance. His loss ranges from $40,000 to $60,000, and makes a huge hole in his fortune. We offer him and the other losers a very sincere sympathy. . . . Nobody knows how the fire originated."

The gallant firemen were put to a more severe test at 4 A.M., Sunday morning, September 12th, when a fire destroyed nearly the entire block on the south side of Marietta Street between Peachtree and Broad. The local press said, in part:[33]

"About four o'clock Sunday morning, the alarm of fire was sounded, and found to proceed from the burning of the store of Compton & Peddicord, on Marietta Street. The fire soon spread to the store of Powers & Son, below, and the wind blowing stiffly up the street in the direction of the State House, the stores occupied by Malone & Johnson, McMillan & Snow, J. Warlick and H. Seltzer, quickly disappeared before the onward march of the Fire King. At the same time the fire had been gradually eating its way into the Norcross Corner, and the stores occupied by Horn & Silvers, and W. C. Lawshe were considerably damaged by the burning of the second floor, used as parlors for the National Hotel.

"Atltanta No. 1, was promptly on the spot, and her members worked manfully. Mechanic No. 2, was about an hour getting ready, owing to the absence of the engineer. The engine of Tallulah, being laid up in the shop for repairs, that gallant company tried to use an old machine, but found that it wouldn't work. The fire is supposed to have been accidental in its origin. . . . Most of the buildings destroyed were one-story brick, with shingle roofs. . . ."

But, while older buildings were falling prey to flames, better ones were being built in the Atlanta of 1869. Two outstanding structures, aside from the new State House, were the Georgia Railroad freight depot and office building, at the foot of East Alabama Street, and the first John H. James mansion, on the present Henry Grady hotel site, at the southwest corner of Peachtree and Cain streets.

The former was completed in April and received glowing notice from the press, which said in part:[34]

". . . The new Georgia Railroad Depot is recognized at a glance as an ornament and benefit to the city, and reflects credit on the spirit and live character of the President and Directors of the Georgia Railroad. Fronting Loyd Street is a three-story brick building designed for offices, fifty-four feet long and fifty in width. It is ornamented with Rustic quoins of granite, and the window and cap sills of the same material. A balcony projects out from the second story, with iron railings of handsome pattern. The roof is ornamented with a cupola, from which a fine view can be had of Stone Mountain, and Atlanta and its environs. . . .

"The freight ware room is 224 feet in length and 50 feet in width. On each side platforms project which are protected by the roof from rain. The ware room is lighted and ventilated by an admirable arrangement at the top of the roof. It is supplied with five of Fairbanks' scales, and fifteen doors admit the reception and delivery of freight. . . .

"The building reflects credit upon the taste and judgment of Mr. Thomas Alexander, the contractor; Messrs. Corput & Bass, architects; Mr. B. H. Broomhead, carpenter; Messrs. Hayden & Healey, masons; and Mr. Huwald, painter. The roof of the building is covered with slate from the Polk County quarry. The granite came from Stone Mountain. The building will cost about $35,000. The old depot is to be removed, and tracks laid upon its site. The Road is now prepared for any amount of business, and we think this winter will be kept busy. . . ."

That contractor Alexander and his associates builded well is amply illustrated by the fact that the old landmark at the foot of Alabama Street still stands as a sentinel of the past after more than eighty years of constant use. Unfortunately its most distinctive appendage, the cupola, was destroyed during a fire which damaged the building on January 19, 1935.[35]

The James mansion, termed the "finest in the State,"[36] was completed later in the year and was designed by architect William H. Parkins. John H. James, the builder, then age 39, was a Henry County farm boy, who had come to Atlanta in 1850 as a youth to clerk for the old Scotch merchant "Uncle Billy" Mann, for $10 per week. During the intervening years he had amassed a fortune as a private banker.[37]

On Christmas Eve, 1869, the "finest residence in Georgia" was thrown open for the inspection of the public. The occasion was described by the *Constitution* on December 25th:

"Yesterday the new and magnificent residence of John H. James, Banker, was thrown open to the inspection of the public, and several thousands availed themselves of the opportunity. Both in style, finish and comfort, it eclipses any residence in the State.

"The general features of the building presents a style that may be called American, though some of the exterior is mixed with the French and Gothic.

The front is irregular in its outline with a tower rising to the height of sixty feet in the centre. The main entrance is through the tower into a lobby, which leads to spacious parlors upon the right and left, connected by large sliding doors. Continued from the lobby, is the main hall and principal stair-case, from which the entrance to the dining room, reception rooms, etc., may be had. Upon the exterior fronts rises two double bay windows, or more properly speaking, two story in height, with circular roofs, surmounted with ornamental balustrades. The gable front is finished with an ornamental mastic cornice, surmounted with a pinnacle from which rises a copper weather vane. Upon the north side of the house is connected a carriage porch, from which an entrance is effected to the ladies reception room. Upon the south side [next to the Leyden House] is a conservatoire, built of glass. The roofs are covered with different colors of slate laid in patterns. Dormer windows are used, giving light and ventilation to the attic rooms. Upon the top of the roof is a flat of 16 x 30 feet for promenade, from which a beautiful view of the country and mountains can be had.

"The interior finish of the first story is made of black walnut and oak, oiled up and varnished similar to furniture polish. Inside blinds folding into boxes forming panels are introduced; the glass is all in large lights, and of double thick French quality. All the modern improvements of hot and cold water into every room; water closets, bath rooms, gents wash room, etc., are introduced, making everything complete and comfortable.[38] The Philadelphia low down grate is used in the first story. Enamelled slate mantels from Cincinnati are put up throughout. The building is of brick, resting upon a stone foundation, which is capped with Stone Mountain granite.

"The Stable, Laundry, Ice House, Cistern, and servants' quarters, are fitted up in elegant style. The flower garden in front is ornamented with fountains."

This architectural triumph of 1869 was to become an historic building, the particulars of which will be related in the following chapter.

Eighteen sixty-nine was an active and productive year insofar as the religious life of Atlanta was concerned. A number of the older churches began or completed new buildings, while some new congregations were organized.

On the morning of September 2nd, elaborate and impressive ceremonies attended the laying of the corner stone of the present brick and stone building of the Church of the Immaculate Conception on the original site of its frame predecessor at Hunter and, then Loyd, now Central Avenue.

Members of the Hibernian Benevolent Society, in full regalia, met at the engine house of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1, and, together with the firemen, marched to the church site, where a large crowd had already assembled. The Rt. Rev. Augustine Verot, Bishop of Savannah, performed the ceremony of laying the corner stone. The stone is of Stone Mountain granite with a square cavity in the center. A tin box was deposited therein, containing copies of the Atlanta daily papers, other documents and specimens of coins.[39] The sermon of the day was delivered by Rev. A. J. Ryan, and was described as "a thunderbolt of oratory and a rainbow of poetry."[40]

The congregation was to worship in the basement for nearly four years until the building was finally completed.

Just prior to the war, under the pastorate of Dr. Henry Carr Hornady, members of the First Baptist Church began a movement to replace their original 1848 frame building, on the northwest corner of Forsyth and Walnut streets with a more substantial and adequate structure. The conflict, from which the church emerged safely, though somewhat damaged put a temporary stop to the campaign. It was renewed in August, 1865, and culminated successfully in the fall of 1869. The new building, facing south on Walton Street, as had its predecessor, was completed in November, under the pastorate of Rev. Robert W. Fuller, who had succeeded Dr. Hornady in 1867.[41]

Dedication services were held Sunday, November 7th, Rev. R. Fuller, of Baltimore, delivering the sermon, his subject being, "Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world." Dr. W. T. Brantley, of the Second Baptist Church, offered the prayer of dedication.[42] The new brick building, surrounded by a wrought-iron fence was to serve its congregation for the next 35 years, and its tall steeple to become a familiar downtown Atlanta landmark.

The first mission to stem from the First and Second Baptist Churches was started in 1867, and was constituted as the Third Baptist Church in 1869. Its 22 original members were presided over by the Rev. H. F. Buchanan, as pastor. The church was located on the north side of Jones Avenue between the W. & A. R. R., and Mangum Street, and served primarily the community around the rolling mill. It subsequently became the Jones Avenue Baptist Church.[43]

The Church of Christ, or Christian Church, was first organized in Atlanta during 1850 by Dr. Daniel Hook, some of the original members being Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Perdue, Stephen J. Shackelford, and Mrs. Mary Evans. The first building of the congregation, erected in 1853, was located on the southwest corner of Pryor and Mitchell streets. After about a year this property was exchanged for a lot on Decatur Street near Ivy. The church building erected on this site became a war casualty in November, 1864. In 1869 a new edifice was built on the north side of Hunter between Pryor and Loyd streets, which served until the present building of the First Christian Church, at the northeast corner of Pryor and Trinity Avenue, was completed in 1907.[44]

St. Philip's Episcopal Church, at Washington and Hunter streets, had probably suffered more war damage than any other surviving church in the city. By 1869, however, the damage had been substantially obliterated and the membership had grown to a marked degree. Some of this growth was due to the attendance of Federal officers and their families, many of whom were Episcopalians. It is said that General Meade, during 1868, raised a fund of approximately $5,000, through solicitation of Northern friends and through public military band concerts. The money was used by the Vestry in the purchase of an organ, renovation of the Church building, and in the addition and building of transepts.[45]

A church organization, particularly worthy of note, also had its origin in 1869, the present Methodist Children's Home at Decatur. Since the end of the war in 1865, which had orphaned many a child, the Rev. Dr. Jesse Boring (1807-1890), had dreamed of establishing a home for the care of orphans in his own North Georgia Conference. Despite outspoken opposition and chilling indifference, Dr. Boring kept his dream alive through the stormy post-war years, and never lost an opportunity to appeal upon behalf of the orphans of dead confederates.[46]

Then one day in 1869, William W. McAfee, a leading lay member of Payne's Chapel in Atlanta, read a newspaper account of the splendid work being done by an orphan's home in New Orleans. McAfee had heard of Dr. Boring's fruitless efforts, and thereupon became a convert. He enlisted the aid of two neighbors and fellow church members, John C. Hendrix and J. G. W. Mills. The trio visited Dr. Boring, pledging their interest and desire to help, each reenforcing his pledge with $100 in gold. Dr. Boring was so encouraged that he redoubled his efforts, and when the Annual Conference met in Rome, Georgia, in December, 1869, he introduced and saw passed resolutions for the establishment "of an institution into which homeless, friendless waifs might be gathered."[47]

A few months later, with the aid of friends, Dr. Boring was able to purchase the home of Major Thomas Jones at Norcross in Gwinnett County, for $7,000. Those who made possible the purchase of this home were John J. Thrasher, Givens W. Arnold, George Jarvis, Dr. Thomas Boring, and the Messrs. Lively and McElroy. On April 26, 1871, the home was dedicated, Congressman Hiram P. Bell delivering the feature address. Methodists from all over the Conference gathered to congratulate the happy founder, and to see the first nineteen orphans, some of whose fathers slept in unknown graves, installed in their new abode. Later in the same year a charter was granted to "The Orphan's Home of the N. G. Conference" by the Superior Court of Fulton County. The original Trustees were: Judge John L. Hopkins, the first president; Judge T. M. Meriwether, vice-president; Charles H. Johnson, Dr. Boring, W. R. Branham, W. H. Potter, L. J. Davies, Clement A. Evans, W. F. Cook, George N. Lester, Y. L. G. Harris, and H. P. Bell.[48]

The little home at Norcross was completely destroyed by fire in 1873, but soon afterward the Trustees were able to purchase from the heirs of William H. Clarke, a pioneer Methodist minister of De Kalb County, who had died in 1872, his farm of 247½ acres near Decatur on then Flat Shoals Road, now Columbia Drive. This beautiful tract of land was admirably suited to the purposes of an orphan's home. Through the years it has been carefully developed, and by the generosity of public-spirited and charitable citizens a number of appropriate buildings have been erected to properly house the activities of some 128 children and 16 workers. In 1934 the name of the institution was changed, and the Decatur Orphan's Home became the Methodist Childrens' Home at Decatur.[49]

The venerable founder, Jesse Boring died in 1890, and, at his request, his body was laid to rest on the grounds of the institution to which he gave so much of himself—a spot which has echoed to the singing and laughter of several generations of the children he loved and was instrumental in providing for.[50]

The people of Atlanta had their first brush whith the science of aviation on December 10, 1869, upon which day, Dr. Albert Hape and Professor Samuel A. King ascended heavenward in the latter's balloon, Hyperion. The *Constitution* reported the event on December 11th:

"Marietta and streets adjacent to it, near its junction with Walton, as well as the track of the State Road, and windows and house-tops were filled yesterday with people gazing at the balloon getting ready for its upward flight. At least 5,000 or 6,000 people were looking on the scene. Prior to its ascension, several balloons bearing the shapes of fishes, elephants, seals, hogs and men were sent up amid the cheers of the crowd. The balloon was filled from a main of the Gas Works. At half past two, Professor King and Dr. Albert Hape, got into the basket, the cords were loosed, and the balloon went right up—at first in a Northwest direction, then going rapidly in a Northeast direction.

"The balloon probably reached a height of one mile, and for half an hour could be plainly seen speeding on in its flight through the air.

"When Dr. Hape was going up, an old negro remarked to his friend, 'If dat man owes you anyting, you'd better scratch um off.' Another wondered, 'if dem folks had religion, as dey wou'd need it before dey got back.' Another said, 'they'd be nearer heaven this time than they ever would get again.'

"Various were the conjectures as to the mode of their coming down. One sage individual suggested that when they wished to let the gas out, they'd rip a hole in the side.

"The weather was propitious, and the ascension a success. We trust the descension will be, also."

As the balloon was wafted over North Fulton and De Kalb counties and into Milton, various were the reactions of spectators. Negroes thought the Ku Klux had adopted a new mode of travel; others concluded that revenue officers were hunting distilleries, while one old gentleman expressed the thought that Bullock had taken to the air and was carrying the proceeds of the W. & A. R. R. to Washington so as to continue Georgia under military rule.[51] After a dinner of oyster pie and "Old Catawba" aloft, the Professor played several pieces on a bugle, which were said to have been heard twelve miles away. During these renditions the balloon passed over a religious meeting in session. One woman attendant informed her friends that the world was coming to an end, for Gabriel was blowing his trumpet, and she thanked God that she had lived to see it.[52]

About sundown the aviators began to look for a place to land. Everything that could be spared was thrown overboard. Sandbags, provisions, wine and even the beautiful bugle were sacrificed that the weight might be lessened and the balloon continue a little farther. But it struck a treetop, was torn, and bounced thirty feet before landing in the cotton field of Lindsay Peak, six miles north of Alpharetta and twenty-six from Marietta. Dr. Hape and Professor King spent the night there and returned to Atlanta the next day.[53]

Another ascension was planned for New Year's Day, 1870, just three weeks later. An even larger crowd had assembled, but at the last minute Professor King pronounced the balloon unsafe. Rather than disappoint the crowd, Dr. Hape stepped into the basket, cut the rope, and was borne aloft alone. When the balloon was about a mile high, the crowd was horrified to see it explode and collapse in mid air. The city was rife with speculation as to where the corpse of the intrepid Dr. Hape would fall. But an hour later he rode into town on a horse, sound in body and cheerful as usual. He had parachuted to the ground with a large piece of canvas and landed unconscious near the Chattahoochee River some three miles from town. He soon recovered, but a Negro woman washing clothes at a nearby spring was frightened speechless. The doctor pulled out a flask and said, "Want a drink, auntie?" Receiving a negative shake of the head, he said, "Well I do," and proceeded to imbibe.[54]

Albert Hape seemed to bear a charmed life. During the War Between the States he had been given up for dead with a chest wound at the Battle of Griswoldville, but miraculously recovered, minus one lung. Several years after the balloon ascensions he had a narrow escape from the Grim Reaper in a cave at Talullah Falls. Though known for his handsome appearance and romantic temperament he never married, and died of heart failure at Thomson, Georgia, where he was practicing dentistry, on October 5, 1884, at the early age of 43. The body was brought to Atlanta for interment at Oakland Cemetery. Several years later an older brother, Samuel, also a dentist, was to found the town of Hapeville.[55]

While commercial aviation in Atlanta was many, many years in the future, the city was acquiring, in 1869, its fifth railroad, the Atlanta & Charlotte Air-Line, now Southern. This line had been chartered as the Georgia Air Line several years before the war, under the leadership of Jonathan Norcross, but the conflict had stopped building operations before they had fairly started. In 1869, however, under President A. S. Buford,[56] of Richmond, Virginia, and Chief Engineer Bazilia Y. Sage, of Atlanta, assisted by his younger brother, Ira Yale Sage, construction was resumed with vigor.

The *Constitution* of May 5, 1869, quoting the Gainesville *Air Line Eagle,* gave its readers a progress report:

"We propose to give our readers such advices as we may receive, from resources open to us, relative to the progress of the Air Line R. R., and from time to time, while communicating such intelligence, we may consider and elucidate the influence of the road upon our town and vicinity, as well as upon the country through which it passes.

"The Air Line leaves the Georgia road at Atlanta, just east of the old Rolling Mill, runs down the distillery branch to Clear Creek Valley, and down the valley to G. W. Collier's,[57] thence crossing the dividing ridge between Clear Creek and the south prong of Peachtree, through Daniel Plaster's land, crosses Peachtree [Creek] on widow Mayson's land,[58] thence running by Peavey's and Bushes, strikes old Peachtree ridge and road at Harris Goodwin's,[59] running just south of his house, strikes the Roswell grading in Hart's lot,[60] and follows Peachtree ridge to the vicinity of Howell's Cross Roads.[61] Easterly from this last point no one, not even the Chief Engineer himself, knows the route. Many a line will be measured and run with the chain, level, compass and transit; every route heretofore talked about will be examined thoroughly, and nothing will be known as to the true route, until it is demonstrated to the full satisfaction of the Company that some particular one possesses the best advantages. The best line will be taken. . . . The sooner every one who has money or land will come forward and take such an amount of stock as can be afforded, the sooner will be seen the iron race-track and the iron horse tearing over it, proclaiming improvement and prosperity along his course. . . ."

A further report was published on September 12th:[62]

"The grading of the first twenty miles of the Air-Line Railroad is nearly ready for the rails. The locomotive, cars and iron for this road is expected the coming week. As soon as it arrives, the rails will be laid to Peachtree Creek. The timbers for the bridge at this creek are now nearly ready for putting up. It is estimated that in four days time the bridge can be so nearly completed as to allow the trains to cross. When this is done, the work of laying the rails will be continued until the whole twenty miles is laid down. In a few days the contract for grading the road to Gainesville, will be given out. We learn that it is highly probable that the Air-Line Road will purchase the depot of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad, as a freight depot.[63] Under the sage advice of its Chief Engineer, the Air-Line is rapidly progressing, and will soon garner in the products of North Georgia."

A couple of months later the *Constitution*, on November 13th, published the following announcement:

"OUT TO PEACHTREE CREEK—The old 'South Carolina' Steam Engine, the first Engine, if we mistake not, that ran over the Georgia Road, was the first Engine to run out to Peachtree Creek, on the Air-Line Railroad."

While progress on the Air-Line continued steadily, it was to be nearly four years before Atlantans could avail themselves of through rail service to the East.

As the building of the new railroad was being carried forward, the subject of organized labor came to the fore, both nationally and locally. Shortly following a large labor meeting in New York City, the *Constitution* editorialized:[64]

"An exclusive organization of working men (so-called) to represent and uphold partial, and if need be, selfish exactions in behalf of labor, seems now to be the new sensation. This is a very great, a very serious thing. But portentous as it seems to our mind, we fear that the infinite injury that this movement is to work finally, on the peace and prosperity of the country is at the present time almost unappreciated. . . .

"When the question becomes one of oppression or of relative social respectability, where is the stopping place? What does the Rolling Mill drudge say to the 'gimlet pointed screw' aristocrat and the collier or poor 'navvy' that works his way, dark as a mole a thousand feet underground? . . . But softly, my 'laboring' friend, do you do it all by yourself? Does the Doctor, riding fifty miles a day, and doing a charity practice thirty miles of this distance, labor any? The Methodist Circuit rider, traveling his painful way after souls on a short-trotting horse, for some five thousand miles every year, and all for one hundred dollars, does he, my 'laboring' friends, do this for amusement? And last, but ah, how far from least, does the 'quill compeller,' who makes up this paper, get his living by play? Nay, nay, gentlemen, acknowledge the truth. The eight hour system means long pay for short performance. If men want to read on easy lounges in well-kept library saloons let them do so by all means, but at their own expense. If you weary on eight hours labor, then work less, or work by the piece and get your honest pay accordingly; but in Heaven's name no more clap-trap about the oppression of capital if you please, and while we all strive to get through the world like men on the resources of men, let us not rise on the overthrow and ruin of others."

A few days later the recently organized Atlanta Working Men's Union, No. 1 announced a meeting to be held at the City Hall, in which was stressed the fact that politics were to be strictly prohibited, and that nothing but the social and pecuniary welfare of the working classes would be entertained by the group.

The *Constitution* commented: "This is running on the right schedule, and we will gladly aid them in securing their social and pecuniary welfare."[65]

The Union met, as announced, on the night of the 23rd, though the meeting was held in the hall of the Anglo-Saxon Gymnastic Club at Broad and Marietta streets instead of the City Hall. In the absence of President Thomas Spencer,[66] Mr. Reynolds presided. J. H. Foy acted as secretary.[67]

A representative of the *Constitution* attended, and reported the proceedings as follows:

". . . Mr. Newman addressed the Union for some time in a clear, logical argument, in which he said among other things, that if the Union produced but one Franklin, or one [John] Stevens, it would have accomplished as much, if not more, than purely political parties had done in the history of Georgia. He said that the mechanics of Atlanta had now patented more since the war, than for twenty years previous. Mr. Foy on being called upon, made a stirring appeal to those present to come forward for the sake of their wives and families, and for that of Georgia, to organize and help improve the condition of Workingmen throughout the State physically, morally and socially. Mr. F. laid stress upon the too common habit or custom of Workingmen spending their time and earnings in gin-mills and bar-rooms to the neglect of their wives and families; he urged economy, industry and self-denial and the establishment of reading-rooms and libraries throughout the State; he instanced many cases where, by organization, the workingmen had greatly improved their condition, and hoped the Empire State of the South would not fall behind in the grand march of progress and civilization.

"The speakers were well received, and frequently applauded by the vast crowd of honest workingmen who thronged the Hall.

"Messrs. Shearer and Reynolds followed in some practical remarks—calling on the working classes to discard politics and politicians and trust only those who earned an honest living by honest industry. Over 200 mechanics came forward at the conclusion of the speeches and joined the Union.

"Surely a revolution in labor is inaugurated, if we may judge by these weekly meetings of the working masses. The meeting adjourned in the best of spirits. . . ."[68]

Officers of the Atlanta Workingmen's Union for the following year, 1870, were:

President, John D. Clarke, painter.
Vice-President, James G. Thrower, brickmason.
Treasurer, P. B. Carbine, machinist Georgia R. R., shop.
Secretary, John Harrison, machinist, W. & A. R. R., shop.[69]

The labor movement has come far since the day of Atlanta Workingmen's Union No. 1.[70]

Comparatively few Atlantans of the late eighteen-sixties, workingmen or otherwise, had large incomes. According to figures published in April, 1869,[71] only 352 individuals in the city enjoyed incomes of over $1,000 for the year 1868. A short list will suffice to exhibit the names of those who received $3,000 or more:

Austell, Alfred	$13,685	Clarke, Thomas M.	3,077
Angier, Nedom L.	4,207	Callaway, James H.	3,289
Adair, George W.	5,762	Clarke, John M.	3,853
Bleckley, Logan E.	4,356	Cox, William B.	4,275
Boynton, Charles E.	3,173	Dobbins, Miles G.	4,986
Brantley, W. S.	4,054	Dougherty, David	5,647
Brown, Joseph E.	12,628	Dodd, Green T.	3,468
Banks, Henry, Sr.	5,277	Duncan, J. W., Estate	3,540
Brotherton, Wm. H.	4,000	Erskine, John	5,260
Brown, C. D.	3,128	Flynn, John H.	3,341
Brumby, A. N.	3,217	Franklin, M.	3,045

Glenn, John T.	3,385
Gartrell, Lucius J.	4,740
Gibbons, G. E., Ex.	3,003
Hill, W. Rhode	4,011
Hammond, Amos W.	3,059
Hammond, N. J.	5,501
Hulbert, Edward	4,260
Holland, E. W.	3,110
Hopkins, John L.	3,434
Healey, Thomas G.	3,548
Hillyer, George	3,155
Hoyt, Samuel B.	3,118
Inman, Samuel M.	4,690
James, John H.	5,327
Jack, George W.	3,500
Jackson, Henry	3,113
Kidd, William	6,414
Knox, W. G.	3,114
Lowry, Wm. M.	3,960
Lowry, Robert J.	4,040
Lynch, James	9,500
Lee, S. W.	7,182
Lynch, John	8,207
McDaniel, Philip E.	9,800
McNaught, Wm.	3,374
McBride, Andrew J.	3,900
Markham, Wm.	8,415
Marsh, Edward W.	15,505
Moore, Wm. A.	15,246
Moses, B. E.	4,530
Mitchell, Russel C.	16,844
Ormond, James	5,191
Pope, John D.	5,097
Rice, John	35,127
Ryan, John	6,000
Rucker, Jett W.	3,295
Rich, William	3,045
Silvey, John	11,420
Scofield, L., Sr.	9,322
Strong, Cicero H.	6,770
Scrutchin, Thomas	3,429
Warlick, Judson	3,051
Watson, W. H.	3,445

John Rice, the predominently high local earner for the year, was president and chief stockholder of the Georgia National Bank. He had resided in the city but a short while and departed when the bank suspended operations a few years hence.

Russell Crawford Mitchell (1837-1905), with the number two income of the day, was in the right business at the right time and place, that of supplying lumber to a rapidly building community. His partner in this enterprise was his brother-in-law Frank P. Rice, a resident of Atlanta since childhood, the firm being called Rice and Mitchell.[72]

Like Rice, Mitchell was also practically a life-long resident of the community. His grandfather, William Mitchell (1781-1859), a native of Edgefield District, South Carolina, and a veteran of the War of 1812, was the first representative of the family to settle in the Atlanta area. He arrived about 1835 and settled on the farm upon which he now lies buried, on South River, below Panola or Flat Shoals, in then Henry now Rockdale County, some 12 miles southeast of Decatur.[73]

Among the children of William and Eleanor Thomasson Mitchell were two sons, Alexander Weldon (1812-1891) and Isaac Green (1810-1881), who became pioneer citizens of Atlanta. The former was a cotton dealer and the latter a farmer, and later a minister of the Methodist Protestant Church. Isaac G. Mitchell rode circuit for some years, but, in 1856 moved to Atlanta, where, soon afterward he founded a Methodist Protestant Church at the northwest corner of Garnett and Forsyth streets, of which he was pastor for many years.[74]

Russell Crawford Mitchell, the fourth son of Isaac G., and Mary Anne Dudley Mitchell, was born in Madison County, Georgia, and was brought up in Henry and De Kalb counties. After attending Bowden College in Carroll County, now West Georgia Junior College, he taught school and began to read law. In 1858 he moved to Alto, Texas, and was admitted to practice in that state in 1860. The war soon intervened and lawyer Mitchell, in the spring of 1861, became Private Mitchell, Company I, 1st Regiment Texas Infantry, Hood's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, C.S.A. He was engaged in battle at Seven Pines, Second Manassas and Sharpsburg, receiving a head wound in the latter conflict. Soon after the war ended he married Miss Deborah Margaret Sweet, of Concord, Florida, to which point he moved and engaged in the cotton business.[75]

A short time later he returned to Atlanta, entered the lumber business and built a home on the northeast corner of what is now Boulevard and Forrest Avenue. Here was born his first child, Eugene Muse Mitchell (1866-1944), later a well-known member of the Atlanta bar, public spirited citizen, historian, and the father of our present fellow citizen Stephens Mitchell, and of the late beloved author of "Gone With the Wind," Margaret Mitchell (Mrs. John R.) Marsh. In 1868 Mr. Mitchell built a new and larger house on the west side of Ivy Street near Baker Street, where the family lived until 1904, and where all of his other children were born. The surviving children of Russell C. Mitchell, by his first wife are the Messrs. Gordon F., and Robert M. Mitchell, and Mrs. Willis M. Timmons, of Atlanta, and by his second wife, Mrs. Clara Robinson, two daughters, Mrs. Lucius McConnell and Mrs. Hughes Roberts, also of Atlanta.[76]

Elizabeth Sterchi, still struggling manfully in the cause of education for the poor in Atlanta, wrote to her friend Bishop Bahnson on January 14, 1869:[77]

> ". . . I wish I could have a house and a daily school, for there is here not a single city school for the whites, while it is done all for the blacks, who have an orphange and I don't know how many other schools. Our children go to the hospital when they lose their friends and parents, and oh, I like not to think of my visits there! I hear always speaking of the blacks; Brother Wolle also wants me to take blacks in my school, but that cannot go. The whites are starving, souls and bodies; the blacks have four beautiful churches, and two-horse carriages to drive in, their beauties or belles clothed in silk when the poor whites have not the first garments, and go not to church because they are ashamed of their rags. The blacks have a dozen schools, for which they are not thankful, and in addition a beautiful college[78] where they learn music, French, and I don't know what sciences, which will never be to them any use; the whites beg at the door to be taught how to read, and obtain it not. . . ."

While Miss Sterchi's humanitarian instincts and financial needs inspired some emotional exaggeration, the fact remains that in the Atlanta of early 1869, as in the years before, there was no system of free or public schools for the benefit of those unable to pay for private schooling. The Negroes, since 1865, had fared better, through the efforts of the Freedmen's Bureau.

The year did not close, however, before concrete steps were taken to establish a free public school system in Atlanta, and to alleviate an educational void consistently deplored in this area since the Indians moved out.

The Constitution of 1868, as previously noted had provided for the organization and establishment of a public school system in Georgia, and the City of Atlanta did not tarry long before taking advantage of this progressive provision.

On September 24, 1869, Councilman Dr. Daniel C. O'Keefe, of the Second Ward, introduced the following resolution at a meeting of Council:

"WHEREAS, The success and perpetuity of free institutions depend upon the virtue and intelligence of the people; and,

"WHEREAS, The system of education known as the public school system, has been proved, by all experience, to be the best calculated to promote these objects; and,

"WHEREAS, The growth and prospective population of our city urgently demand the establishment of a cheap and efficient system of education; be it therefore

"Resolved, That his honor, the mayor, and two members of the council be appointed a committee to act in concert with seven citizens, friends of education, to be elected by said committee, to investigate the subject of public schools for the city of Atlanta, and obtain all necessary information on the subject, and report the result of their investigation to the council by the first of December next."[79]

This document, which might be called the foundation of the Atlanta Public School System, was quickly adopted by council and the committee provided for was immediately appointed. It was composed of the mayor, W. H. Hulsey, D. C. O'Keefe and E. R. Carr, of council, and Dr. J. P. Logan, Dr. S. H. Stout, William M. Janes, John H. Flynn, David Mayer, E. E. Rawson, and L. J. Gartrell, on the part of the citizens.[80]

The Committee prepared an elaborate report, recommending the establishment, at once, of a liberal system of Public Schools for the city, which was presented to City Council on November 19, 1869, and adopted. On November 26th, the following resolutions, offered by Dr. O'Keefe, were adopted by Council:

"*Resolved,* That the City Council will establish a liberal system of public instruction, free for all the children of the City, on the basis recommended by the Committee on Public Schools, in their report presented to the Council on the 19th day of November, 1869.

"*Resolved,* That a Board of Education, consisting of twelve members, citizens of Atlanta, shall be elected by this Council on the third day of December next—four of whom shall be elected for two years, four for four years, and four for six years—who shall take in charge the public educational interests of the City, and report to the Council what ordinances may be necessary to perfect such system of public instruction, and suggest what additional legislation by the General Assembly of the State may be necessary to enable the City to issue bonds and raise revenues to inaugurate and support the same.

"*Resolved,* That the said Board of Education shall, at as early a day as practicable, report to the Council plans of three Public School-Houses, with specifications and estimates of the costs of same.

"*Resolved,* That the said Board of Education shall establish rules and regulations for their own government, and rules and regulations for the government of the Schools proposed to be established, subject to the approval of Council.

"*Resolved,* That the police of the City shall be required to take a census of the population of the City, between the ages of six and eighteen years, under the direction of said Board of Education.

"*Resolved,* That the Board of Education, after the census of the scholastic population provided for in the preceding resolution shall have been taken, shall divide the City into three School Districts, and define the boundaries of the same, and be empowered to change the boundaries and lay off additional Districts, as the educational interests of the City may from time to time require.

"*Resolved,* That it shall be the duty of said Board of Education to take into consideration all subjects and details affecting the Public Schools proposed to be established, which, in other cities, are considered within the province of Boards of Education, Comptrollers, Trustees, or Committees on Public Schools."[81]

A few days later, on December 10th, City Council elected a Board of Education, Atlanta's first. It was composed of the following leading citizens:[82]

For six years:
Dr. Joseph P. Logan
Edward E. Rawson
Joseph E. Brown
Logan E. Bleckley

For four years:
John H. Flynn
Col. L. P. Grant
David Mayer
Harvey T. Phillips

For two years:
Dr. Samuel H. Stout
William A. Hemphill
Moses C. Blanchard
Dr. Daniel C. O'Keefe

Thus, in 1869, was the bare framework for a public school system in Atlanta set up. Many procedural difficulties remained to be solved, and much opposition upon the part of a sizable segment of the citizenry had to be overcome, before the system actually went into operation in 1872, the details of which will be related in Chapter 50.

Before that happy day arrived, however, Dr. Daniel C. O'Keefe, "Father of Atlanta's Public Schools," was no more. He died while on a visit to Gainesville, Georgia, August 8, 1871, at the age of 43. This useful citizen was a son of the Emerald Isle, having been born in County Limerick, Ireland, in October, 1827. Emigrating to America, he landed in New Orleans, from whence he made his way to Augusta, Georgia. Here he studied medicine under the Drs. Campbell and graduated from the Medical College of that city. He commenced practice at Penfield, Georgia, removing later to Greensboro, Georgia, and from there to Knoxville, Tennessee. In 1857 or 1858 he settled in Atlanta, where he filled two chairs in the Atlanta Medical College and a place on the City Board of Health. During the war he rendered valuable surgical services to the Confederacy. In his profession he was conservative in adhering to a few trusted remedies, but no new remedy which promised to allay human suffering escaped a fair trial at his hands. Dr. O'Keefe was a member of the Masons, Hibernians, and of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[83]

While the foundation was being laid for a public school system in Atlanta in 1869, another Negro university had its inception as a primary school on Fraser Street. It was opened early in the year in Clark Chapel by the Rev. James W. Lee and his wife. During the following year this small institution was taken under the wing of the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, then doing extensive missionary work among Southern Negroes. Through the instrumentality of Bishops D. W. Clark and Gilbert Haven, the school grew rapidly, and soon moved to a new location at Whitehall and McDaniel streets. Haven, an abolitionist clergyman worked energetically to raise subscriptions throughout the country, and, in 1872, was thereby enabled to purchase, in the name of the Freedmen's Aid Society, more than four hundred acres of land as a permanent site for the institution. The property, previously owned by the Georgia National Bank, Darwin G. Jones and E. Y. Clarke, was located, for the most part, in Land Lots 73 and 88 of the 14th District of Fulton County, at the south end of what is now Capitol Avenue, then McDonough Road. After Bishop Clark's death in 1872, his daughter, Mrs. Augusta Clark Cole contributed a sizable sum to the school, which secured a charter in 1877, as Clark University. The cornerstone of the first brick building on the new campus, Chrisman Hall, was laid February 1, 1880, at which time Bishop Matthew Simpson delivered the principal address. This building was largely the gift of Mrs. Eliza Chrisman, of Topeka, Kansas. For many years Clark University emphasized the teaching of trades, but gradually this work was supplanted by liberal arts courses.[84]

After the inclusion of Clark University in the University center plan in 1940, its name was changed to Clark College. During the following year the college moved from its old site to a new site on Chestnut Street opposite the Atlanta University Administration Building, where it can more easily share in the combined facilities of all the Negro colleges grouped around Atlanta University.[85]

The opening of Clark University, on the McDonough Road in 1881, and of Gammon Theological Seminary on an adjoining site two years later, was responsible for the origin and growth of the well-known Negro residential section lying along the McDonough and Jonesboro roads, long known as "South Atlanta." Many of the street names in this locality bear the names of men prominent as founders, benefactors and teachers in the two schools, such as Marcy, Barrows, Crogman, Bisbee, Thayer, Brown, Maury, Gammon, Murray, and Thirkield.[86]

The parade of departing useful and pioneer citizens continued in 1869 as in former years. Colonel John W. Duncan, age 37, native of Scotland, lawyer, president, Atlanta Gas Light Company, and one time joint proprietor of the Atlanta *Intelligencer* with O. A. Lochrane, died January 5th at his home, corner Peachtree and Harris streets. He had lived in Atlanta since 1856, and served the Confederate States of America as an assistant treasurer. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery. His widow, nee Mary Fort, of Milledgeville, continued to live in what was long known as the "Duncan cottage," on the present site of the Capital City Club, until her death in 1908 at 81.[87]

Ezekiel Slaughter Candler, born in 1816, and an uncle of the late Asa G., John S., and Warren A. Candler, of Atlanta, died in Atlanta on January 12, 1869. He had served as sheriff of Carroll County as a young man, and had also represented that county in the Legislature. He served three terms, beginning in 1851, as comptroller-general of Georgia.[88]

Reverend Rufus K. Porter, pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, died July 14th, aged 42; William M. "Uncle Billy" Hill, a pioneer merchant of Decatur and subsequently a well-known auctioneer of Atlanta, died July 11th at the ripe age of 80, while on October 13th, Colonel James Fairlie

Cooper, age 55, died at his home on Pryor Street. Col. Cooper, for whom Fairlie Street is named, was the son of Thomas A. Cooper, the celebrated tragedian, and grandson of Major James Fairlie, a Revolutionary officer. James Fairlie Cooper graduated from West Point in the same class with General Joseph E. Johnston, and was commissioned in the Topographical Engineer Corps of the U. S. Army. He soon resigned from the Army and took part in the surveying of the State, or W. & A. R. R. Subsequently he served as head of the U. S. Mint at Dahlonega, and a three year term as superintendent of the W. & A. R. R. During the war he was elected Lt. Colonel of the Seventh Georgia Regiment, and at the end of the conflict, broken in health and fortune, settled in Atlanta where he served usefully as city engineer for several years.[89]

Some of the De Kalb pioneers who died during the year were Bennett Lee, born 1794, of the Stone Mountain District; Benjamin Crowley, born 1812, of Panthersville District; Greenville Henderson, born 1792, of Browning's District and proprietor of Henderson's Mill. All are buried in their respective family cemeteries in De Kalb County. The Rev. Elijah Byrd, born in Edgefield, South Carolina, in 1786, a pioneer Methodist minister of De Kalb, died October 22nd in Polk County, where he had resided for the last 17 years of his life. He is buried in the cemetery at Cedartown, Georgia.[90]

Captain Charles Wallace, a promising young Atlantan, son of Colonel Alexander M. Wallace, and a battle-scarred veteran of the Confederate Army, was murdered at Warrenton, Georgia, on March 12, 1869. Wallace, whose pen name was "Harry Percy," had moved to Warrenton after the war, where he conducted the "Warrenton Clipper." Desirous of becoming a member of Franklin Lodge No. 11, F. & A. M., Wallace was up for consideration, but on being voted upon, received two black balls from Dr. G. W. Darden, a scalawag, who differed politically with the candidate. Wallace then published a card in his paper, praising the Masonic fraternity, but excoriating Dr. Darden. The following day, as Wallace walked by the Doctor's office, he was shot and killed with a double-barreled shot gun in the hands of Darden. The latter was jailed, but that evening the jail was entered by unknown persons, who, after giving the murderer three hours to arrange his affairs, took him to a remote spot and shot him to death. Captain Wallace's body was brought to Atlanta for interment at Oakland.[91]

During October, 1869, De Kalb County made up for at least four of its departed citizens. On the 19th the *Constitution* published the following announcement:

> "OLD DE KALB STILL AHEAD—We learn that a Lady near Lithonia, in De Kalb County, gave birth to four bouncing boys. Old De Kalb is preparing for the next war."

A correspondent for the New York *Times* summed up his impressions of Atlanta on June 21, 1869:

> "Atlanta is the most busy town that I have seen since leaving New York, and there are crowds of people here from so many quarters, and there are so many colored people living as best they can, that I was reminded of those on the Pacific Railroad which successively were at the end of the track. . . ."[92]

Only thirty years before Atlanta had been a mere hamlet at the end of a track over which no train had yet run. Now it was about to enter upon a new decade—a decade of unprecedented building activity.

NOTES—CHAPTER 47

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 255; *Memoirs of Georgia,* I, 828-830; "Garrett's Necrology."

[2] Reed, *Atlanta,* 255.

[3] *Ibid.,* 256.

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] *Ibid.,* 255.

[6] *Ibid.,* 256; Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *loc. cit.,* 255.

[7] Record of Postmasters, Fulton.

[8] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 400.

[9] *Ibid.,* 402.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 214.

[13] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 273.

[14] Sec. 1 of the Amendment reads: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

[15] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 407; Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 274.

[16] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 424.

[17] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 24, 1869.

[18] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* IV, 69.

[19] Minutes S. C., De Kalb, 1869, Book D.

[20] *Ibid.*

[21] *Ga. Laws,* 1869, p. 20.

[22] John D. Humphries, "Judges of the Superior Courts of Fulton and De Kalb Counties," *A.H.B.,* XVII (Apr. 1939), 121-122.

[23] Minutes S. C., Fulton, 1869, Book G.

[24] Reed, *Atlanta,* Part II, 89; "Garrett's Necrology."

[25] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 3, 1869.

[26] Obituary, *Atlanta Journal,* March 6, 1932; city directories 1870-1890.

[27] John M. Harrison, "The Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XXVI (Oct. 1941), 255.

[28] *Atlanta Constitution,* May 4, 1869.

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] Harrison, "Volunteer Firemen of Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 256-257.

[31] *Ibid.,* 257.

[32] *Ibid.; Atlanta Constitution,* May 5, 1869.

[33] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 14, 1869.

[34] *Ibid.,* Apr. 22, 1869.

[35] *Ibid.,* Jan. 20, 1935.

[36] *Ibid.,* Dec. 25, 1869.

[37] "Garrett's Necrology."

[38] The house had a private waterworks system, a city waterworks not then being in existence.

[39] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 2, 1869.

[40] *Atlanta Daily New Era,* Sept. 2, 1869.

[41] Reed, *Atlanta,* 385.

[42] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 9, 1869.

[43] Reed, *Atlanta,* 388; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 543.

[44] Reed, *Atlanta,* 399-400; city directories, 1906-1908. The corner stone of the present building bears the date, 1906.

[45] Hitz, *Cathedral of St. Philip,* 26.

[46] Mrs. Alva G. Maxwell, *Story of the Methodist Children's Home, Decatur, Georgia* (n.p., n.d., circa, 1937), 7; "Garrett's Necrology."

[47] Maxwell, *Methodist Children's Home,* 8. With name corrections by the present writer.

[48] *Ibid.,* 7-11.

[49] *Ibid.,* 10, 12, 29.

[50] *Ibid.,* 11.

[51] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 14, 1869.

[52] Written account of Dr. Hape, printed in the *Atlanta Daily New Era* and quoted, John Ardis Manry, "Atlanta's First Aviator," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Oct. 6, 1929.

[53] Manry, "Atlanta's First Aviator," *loc. cit.*

[54] *Ibid.*

[55] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[56] For whom Buford, Georgia, on the line, is named.

[57] Present route of the Southern Railway belt line from Decatur Street to Armour or Belt Junction just north of the Ansley Park golf course.

[58] Widow of William C. Mayson, killed at Second Manassas while serving in Confederate army. The old two-story frame Mayson home still stands atop a hill on the west side of Piedmont Road just north of Peachtree Creek. The present Lindbergh Drive was long called Mayson Avenue in honor of this family.

[59] Home still standing, 3967 Peachtree Road, at Brookhaven.

[60] Robert H. Hart and Dr. C. C. Hart, near Cross Keys.

[61] Present site of Duluth, or immediate vicinity.

[62] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 12, 1869.

[63] It did. Located at Decatur and Pratt streets.

[64] April 5, 1869.

[65] April 21, 1869.

[66] Mr. Spencer was a native of England, and came to Atlanta in 1855 from Philadelphia. Until late 1869 he was a machinist in the W. & A. Shops. Subsequently he served for some years as a local Justice of the Peace. Still later he was appointed by Judge John L. Hopkins as official stenographer of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit. He died in Atlanta on March 29, 1889, age 74, and is buried at Ooakland Cemetery.

[67] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 25, 1869.

[68] *Ibid.*

[69] *Hanleiter's Atlanta Directory,* 1870, p. 44.

[70] The oldest Union in the city is Atlanta Typographical Union No. 48, chartered Apr. 18, 1860.

[71] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 16, 1869.

[72] "Garrett's Necrology."

[73] "Margaret Mitchell Memorial Issue," *A.H.B.,* XXXIV (May, 1950), 5.

[74] *Ibid.,* 6-7.

[75] *Ibid.,* 8-9.

[76] *Ibid.,* 9; "Garrett's Necrology."

[77] *A.H.B.,* XXII (July, 1940), 202-203.

[78] Atlanta University.

[79] Reed, *Atlanta,* 336; *Hanleiter's Atlanta City Directory,* 1872, p. 142.

[80] Reed, *Atlanta,* 336.

[81] *Hanleiter's Atlanta City Directory,* 1872, pp. 142-143.

[82] *Ibid.,* 143.

[83] *The Christian Index,* Sept. 21, 1871; *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 9, 1871.

[84] Reed, *Atlanta,* 371; Martin, *Atlanta* II, 303; Orr, *History of Education in Georgia,* 365; Phillips's Map of Fulton County, 1872; Viola L. Jenson, "Higher Education for Negroes in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XXXIII (Oct., 1948), 107; Paul W. Miller, ed., *Atlanta, Capital of the South* (American Guide Series, New York, 1949), 238. Hereafter cited as Miller, ed., *Atlanta.*

[85] Orr, *History of Education in Georgia,* 365; Miller, ed., *Atlanta,* 238-239.

[86] *Cf.* Reed, *Atlanta,* 370-375 and Wagner's Map of Atlanta, 1927.

[87] "Garrett's Necrology."

[88] *Ibid.*

[89] *Ibid.*

[90] *Ibid.*

[91] *Atlanta Constitution,* March 16, 1869.

[92] Quoted in C. W. Tebeau, "Visitor's Views of Georgia Politics and Life, 1865-1880," *G.H.Q.,* (March, 1942), 5. The first trans-continental railroad had been completed in May, 1869, Union Pacific and Central Pacific, the latter now Southern Pacific.

Section VIII

THE EIGHTEEN-SEVENTIES

A City is Rebuilt. Public Schools, a Horse Car System and Waterworks Make for a More Abundant Life

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CHAPTER 48

1870

DURING the month of November, 1869, the voters of Atlanta were treated to some strenuous electioneering upon the part of several candidates aspiring to the office of Mayor for 1870. Before election day, December 1st, Joseph Winship, James E. Williams, and Judge Dennis F. Hammond had all dropped out, leaving the field to two Democrats, Judge William Ezzard and Dr. James F. Alexander, and one so-called Radical, William Markham. Despite the opprobrium then visited upon Radicals, Markham was one of the city's best citizens, and had been so since long before the war. He was probably the leading local apostle of heavy industry in ante-bellum Atlanta, and was afterward to build one of the city's best known post-bellum hotels. His chief fault, in the eyes of the Democrats, was the fact that he was a Republican, though no man was more sincere in his political convictions. Right up to the time of the election, the *Constitution,* of which I. W. Avery was editor, urged Dr. Alexander to withdraw from the race, since it was feared that a divided Democratic ticket would insure a Radical victory. The good doctor, however, did not see fit to heed this advice.[1]

The fears of editor Avery proved to be needless, for the venerable Judge Ezzard won the race, thereby becoming the only individual to serve as mayor of both ante-bellum and post-bellum Atlanta.

One polling place in each ward sufficed for the local voters of that time, the locations being as follows:

1st Ward—At Engine House, near Bridge on Broad Street.

2nd Ward—At City Hall.

3rd Ward—At James G. Kelly's residence (northwest corner Hunter and Terry streets).

4th Ward—Willingham's Building, in rear of J. J. Norman & Co. (corner Decatur and Ivy streets).

5th Ward—At No. 3 Engine House on Broad Street.[2]

When all the votes were in, it was found that Ezzard had polled 819; Markham, 762, and Alexander, 498.[3] This result inspired the *Constitution* to observe on December 3rd:

"HOW THE ELECTION WAS RECEIVED—On Thursday morning [Dec. 2nd], when it was announced that Judge Ezzard was elected, the crowd assembled at the Live Drug Store, cheered vociferously and proceeded to Judge Ezzard's residence. They got the Judge out and brought him to the corner of James' Bank, and called on him for a speech. Judge E. returned his thanks to the crowd for their efforts in behalf of Democracy, and alluded in felicitious terms to the fact that this was not the first time he had triumphed over Mr. Markham. He thought that the finances of the city were somewhat better in consequence of somebody paying taxes.

"Mayor Hulsey responded to calls made upon him in his usual fervid style. It was the happiest moment of his life. He had taken a deeper interest in the present election than in his own, as he believed Judge Ezzard was the only man to beat the Radicals. We had saved ourselves the humiliation of it being telegraphed all through the country that a Radical had been elected Mayor.

"Colonel E. Y. Clarke was also called on, and responded in his terse and perspicuous style, stating that the present triumph was one in which all Democrats could rejoice. Heaven forbid that any Democrat should exult over the defeat of a brother Democrat. The defeat of the Radicals was a common triumph, in which both Alexander men and Ezzard men should unite."

The Council elected to serve with Mayor Ezzard was composed of the following gentlemen:

First Ward—M. T. Castleberry and Dr. D. C. O'Keefe.
Second Ward—James H. Callaway and Volney Dunning.
Third Ward—James G. Kelly and William C. Anderson.
Fourth Ward—Evan P. Howell and Michael Mahoney.
Fifth Ward—Anthony Murphy and Alfred L. Fowler.[4]

Ministerial officers elected by the Council of 1870 were: clerk, S. B. Love; treasurer, Perino Brown; marshal, George W. Anderson; deputy marshal, John L. Johnson; second deputy marshal, Samuel D. Haslett; city attorney, Henry Jackson; tax receiver and collector, Frank T. Ryan; first lieutenant of police, Timothy C. Murphy; second lieutenant of police, D. M. Queen; overseer of streets, Martin Daly; city physicians, Charles Pinckney and E. S. Ray; hallkeeper, Patrick Fitzgibbon; city engineer, W. B. Bass.[5]

The city over which these men were called to preside was no city of the "Old South." It was, for all practical purposes a new city located in the South. For the most part its population of 21,789[6] exhibited a Rhett Butler rather than an Ashley Wilkes philosophy. It looked forward, not backward, and had taken off its coat and gone to work. There was plenty for all to do and fortune beckoned the energetic.

It was during 1870 that Robert Somers, an English traveler in America, stumbled along the muddy streets of Atlanta and philosophized, "one receives at every step a lively impression of the great power residing somewhere in the United States of filling the most distant and unpromising places with wares and traffickers of all kinds."[7]

Somers had abundant cause to deliver himself of these thoughts. Store doors overflowed onto plank sidewalks with sides of bacon and beef and with "Yankee notions" from New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and Cincinnati. Agents for Northern manufacturers, displaying the latest in patented devices, crowded into the hotels, giving demonstrations by day and playing poker and spinning yarns by night.

By no means all of these agents and drummers confined their activities to the business district of Atlanta. In rigs rented from local livery stables they floundered along the muddy country roads, for there were the newly established rural merchants to be called upon.

Reconstruction, now well advanced in the South, meant not only political and social change, but also a drastic change in methods of distributing goods. No longer was the large plantation owner the primary rural customer. As land holdings were broken into smaller units of more manageable sizes, hundreds of rural communities and towns came into existence throughout the South. Small purchases, remote from sources of goods must be supplied. The need was soon met. Ex-soldiers, plantation owners, former army sutlers, Jewish peddlers and enterprising native sons, opened crossroads stores in great profusion, encouraged by agents of Northern manufacturers and merchants who had formerly supplied the plantation trade through factors. Between 1865 and 1870 the Southern country store, an institution destined to flourish mightly for nearly half a century, came into its own.[8]

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Washington Street looking south from Hunter Street, early 1870's. Central Presbyterian Church, foreground; Second Baptist, background. The fence post in left foreground was part of the enclosure surrounding the City Hall-Court House lot. Now occupied by the State Capitol

At the same time Atlanta, with its strategic location, began to play, in an important manner, the role for which it was destined from the beginning, that of a major distribution center. The day of the wholesaler and jobber had arrived, with particular emphasis on dry goods, groceries and hardware. By rail and by buggy drummers for Atlanta wholesalers, good salesmen, and, for the most part, good Confederates, fanned out into the countryside to minister energetically to the needs of a new rural constituency.

Governor Bullock, as we have seen, spent a considerable part of the year 1869 in Washington actively lobbying for a resumption of military rule in Georgia and the reseating of the expelled Negro members of the legislature. That he operated boldly while in the national capital is indicated by the following from a Washington newspaper of the time:

> "Gov. Bullock seemed, in fact, to be managing the bill in the House. He was on the floor all day, and was consulted by Butler at every stage. His presence was remarked as being about the boldest piece of lobbying ever witnessed in Congress."[9]

The governor's junket was also expensive. After the bill passed and President Grant had signed without reading, Bullock played host at a feast, described by the Washington *National Intelligencer*:

> "The celebrated *Cafe Francaise* was the scene on Wednesday night of a Bacchanalian feast, given by Governor Bullock, in honor of his triumph over the people of Georgia, to the aiders and abettors of the scheme. Wine flowed like water, and rich viands were greedily devoured; in the midst of which the company gloated in fiendish triumph over the vengeance they had wreaked upon an unhappy and defenseless people. What mattered the expense? The people of Georgia would be made to foot this and many other bills of like nature. With his hands to the elbow in the State Treasury, Mr. Carpetbagger Bullock can well afford to be sumptuous, and to dine and wine, and feast and flatter the men who have done his bidding on the floor of Congress. Whether or not he has inaugurated a gift enterprise, in which these servile and traitorous Congressmen are to participate, we cannot say."[10]

The Congressional Act of December 22, 1869, known as the Georgia Bill, gave Bullock the ammunition he needed for the reorganization of the legislature. It directed the Governor, by proclamation, to convene that body. Members must be required to take an oath that they had not shared in the "rebellion" after holding an office, or that they had been relieved by Congress. Any one taking a false oath should be punishable for perjury. Any one hindering a member from taking the oath or acting as a member after taking the oath, would commit a felony. The exclusion of members for race or color was forbidden. The Governor was authorized to call for the military. And the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment was required before senators and representatives could be admitted.[11]

For sheer inconsistency this piece of legislation has probably never been surpassed. The validity of the Fourteenth Amendment was partially resting on Georgia's ratification as a state, and yet she was declared not a State, though the ratification was claimed as valid. The State was not allowed to be a State, and yet its ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment was sought; the act of a State, before it should become a State.[12]

Acting under the bill for the reorganization of Georgia, Bullock issued a call for the meeting of the legislature on January 10, 1870, to all members declared elected in 1868, including the Negroes who had been expelled.[13] By the eleventh every hotel, boarding house and house of entertainment in Atlanta was filled, and the streets were crowded with throngs of people discussing the situation.[14] The *Constitution,* on that day, under a heading. "The Situation," commented:

> "The city is crowded with visitors. The two parties have been holding meetings. The Radicals are making bold, desperate attempts to frighten off Democrats from taking the oath. It is said that they have warrants for perjury ready to pounce upon certain men if they take the oath.
>
> "They are uneasy, and in their desperation are exposing themselves. The Democrats seem unterrified. The members are being slowly sworn in. Let the Democratic members not be frightened off from their duty."[15]

The question of the eligibility of members was not entrusted to the two houses, but was taken in hand by Governor Bullock and General Terry. Organization of the legislature was directed by appointees of the governor, J. G. W. Mills in the Senate, an old citizen of Atlanta and a son-in-law of the pioneer, Edwin Payne; the House was assigned to a new comer, Asa L. "Fatty" Harris, an employee of the Western & Atlantic Railroad.[16] I. W. Avery, in his *History of Georgia*[17] described Harris in the following language:

> "Harris was a western man [from Ohio] of enormous corporosity, weighing three or four hundred pounds; a cool, humorous, dry-witted, careless giant, indifferent to abuse, keenly relishing the absurdities of the situation, and equal to any emergency. No attack could ruffle, and no inconsistency of order disconcert him. He was an admirable selection for the odious and perplexing service needed. He obeyed orders implicitly, and held to his arbitrary role with a fine blending of pluck and fun."

The test of eligibility applied to members was the oath of the Reconstruction Acts, and not the Fourteenth Amendment. In order to establish official interpretation of "civil office" and "aid and comfort to enemies," both terms of the oath, Bullock asked attorney-general H. P. Farrow for a ruling. The ruling was, to say the least, broad, and included notaries public, town marshals and state librarians among "civil officers" in the meaning of the law. Shortly thereafter, Chief Justice Brown, being called upon by a group of Conservatives from the Legislature for an opinion on the same subject, gave one directly contrary to that of Farrow.[18] The eligibility of members became a muddled subject indeed.

By January 14th, with Democrats and Conservative Republicans outside of the Bullock camp, it began to look as if the governor might lose control of the legislature after all. A desperate strategy was resorted to. By command of General Terry, a military board, consisting of Generals T. H. Ruger and T. J. Haines, and Major Henry Goodfellow, was ordered to investigate the eligibility of certain members. The board did not go as far as Bullock's friends wished, for it failed to see eye to eye with H. P. Farrow that the holding of an office such as notary public or town marshal under the Confederate regime should be a disqualification for membership in the legislature. Nevertheless the military board disqualified four Democrats, including Senator W. T. Winn of Gwinnett and Representative Edward M. Talliaferro, of Fulton. Nineteen others were intimidated to such an extent that they did not take their seats. Winn's disqualification, incidentally, was based on the charge that he had sold some beef to Confederate soldiers.[19]

Terry's Purge, as it was called, resulted in reseating the Negroes and eliminating enough conservative whites to give the Bullock entourage a strong majority in both houses. Benjamin Conley was again elected President of the Senate and R. L. McWhorter, Speaker of the House. The new legislature promptly ratified the Fifteenth Amendment, and re-ratified the Fourteenth. In spite of the fact that Dr. H. V. M. Miller and Joshua Hill had been legally elected as United Senators in 1868, though yet unseated, the Republican legislature of 1870 proceeded to name Foster Blodgett for the term ending in 1877, H. P. Farrow for the 1873 term, and R. H. Whiteley for the short term, 1871. The victory of Bullock seemed complete.[20]

Under the circumstances it is not surprising that the State-owned Western and Atlantic Railroad became, in 1870, a political football—literally a public grab-bag into which all favored politicians might plunge a hand.

Since the end of the war remarkable progress had been made in the rehabitation of this valuable property, and under superintendent Campbell Wallace and his successor Edward Hulbert it paid a fine annual revenue into the State treasury. Then, on January 1, 1870, Hulbert, an experienced railroad man was removed, and Foster Blodgett, wholly inexperienced in railroad management, was placed in charge.[21]

His mismanagement of the property was monumental. Hundreds of old and experienced employees, including conductor William A. Fuller, who rendered such valient service in connection with the Andrews' raid during the war, were summarily discharged. The road was packed with political employees, and made the refuge for party tramps. The payroll was increased by $178,574 over 1869. Many of these so-called employees, some of whom were members of the legislature, rendered no services whatsoever. Individual cases of fraud in connection with the road were numerous. Receipts for $7,296 of lard oil were forged in the name of A. J. Orme, a reputable Atlanta commission merchant. Asa L. Harris was paid $2,760 for a worthless railway switch. Large numbers of Tennessee Negroes were carried free to Atlanta to vote. Bogus names were placed on the payroll and money drawn for them. Auditor N. P. Hotchkiss, upon being questioned at a subsequent investigation of the road as to how he managed to accumulate twenty to thirty thousand dollars in a couple of years, on a salary of between two and three thousand dollars, replied, "by the exercise of the most rigid economy."[22] Probably no railroad was ever more grossly misrun than the W. & A., during 1870, with the possible exception of the Erie under Daniel Drew and James Fisk at about the same time.

The legislative and railroad mismanagement excesses of 1870 were not long in creating a feeling in Congress that perhaps Georgia had borne the cross of a distasteful and inept government long enough. After a bitter fight in both the House and Senate, and over the aggressive opposition of Bullock, who had returned to Washington for the fray, the Act of July 15, 1870, was passed.[23]

By its terms military government was withdrawn from Georgia; the State was entitled to representation in Congress, and the right of the people of Georgia was affirmed to an election for members of the General Assembly as provided for in the Constitution of 1868.[24] No more would duly elected members of the legislature be subjected to intimidation, or their eligibility be passed upon by military tribunal. The Bullock regime was to last well into 1871, but the handwriting, foreshadowing its downfall, had been written clearly into the law of the land.

The Legislature of 1870 was by far the most expensive such body in the history of the State up to that time, its sessions costing $526,891. By comparison, nine years of Democratic legislation, from 1853 to 1862 had cost only $866,385. In 1870 the legislature had some 84 clerks and attaches. Pay for the members was fixed at $9 per day, which was drawn for twelve days of recess. The expelled Negro members drew $28,938 for time they did not serve. And at every session after each recess, no matter how short, this thrifty group drew mileage. The bill for this item alone during 1870 came to $63,996.04, while clerk hire totalled $51,740. The public money, so recklessly spent during this period did not come from tax increases, for the people of Georgia could not have paid had levies been made. By and large they were still impoverished by the war. Instead the Western and Atlantic Railroad was milked vigorously, and bonds, amounting to many millions, were issued freely. In all of his financial transactions Rufus B. Bullock had the expert advice and guidance of his amanuensis, Hannibal I. Kimball, a financier who came to be known as "A Steam Engine in Breeches."[25]

One of the few meritorious measures enacted by the Legislature of 1870, was the Act authorizing the lease of the W. & A. R. R., by which the State withdrew from the field of railroad operation, though not ownership.[26] The mismanagement of this valuable property had become so flagrant that public sentiment was aroused in favor of its disposition by lease or sale. Accordingly, a bill to lease the property, passed and approved October 24, 1870, was introduced in the legislature by Dunlap Scott, a Democratic leader. Under its terms the governor was authorized to lease the road to a company, not to a connecting railway, for a rental of not less than $25,000 per month. To guard against the danger of the road falling into the hands of outside speculators, the law required that a majority of the lessees should be bona-fide citizens and residents of Georgia of at least five years standing, and that the lessees should give bond for at least $8,000,000, of which $5,000,000 must be in Georgia, and should be worth in their own property, above all indebtedness, at least $500,000. The term of the lease was set at twenty years.[27]

The negotiations in connection with the lease were intricate and by no means free of suspected collusion, but eventuated, late in December, in an announcement that a company headed by former Governor and Chief Justice Joseph E. Brown had been the successful bidder at $25,000 per month. Among the 23 original lessees making up the company, 14 were Georgians. In addition to Brown they were: H. I. Kimball, Atlanta; H. B. Plant, Augusta; John P. King, Augusta; Richard Peters, Atlanta; Alexander H. Stephens, Crawfordville; Benjamin May, Columbus; William C. Morrill, Macon; Andrew J. White, Macon; William B. Johnston, Macon; C. A. Nutting, Macon; William S. Holt, Macon; Benjamin H. Hill, Athens, and John T. Grant, Walton County.[28] Joseph E. Brown resigned from the Supreme Court shortly thereafter to become president of the Western and Atlantic Railroad Company, a position he was to hold for the duration of the lease.[29]

In general, the people of Georgia were glad to see their railroad removed from the immediate sphere of politics, and to know that $25,000 would pour into the state treasury every month instead of many times that amount flowing out.[30]

A year or two before the Western and Atlantic was leased, two Atlanta widows, plaintiffs in damage suits against the road, were made painfully aware that history produces ironical results.

Mrs. Mary E. Cannon sued for the death of her husband, locomotive engineer Sylvester Cannon, killed on July 6, 1862, while pulling a combination mail, passenger and troop train from Atlanta to Chattanooga. His train collided head-on with a southbound freight. Mrs. Nancy Martin's spouse, captain of a Tennessee company took passage on a W. & A. train from Atlanta on September 14, 1863, en route to the Battle of Chickamauga. He became a casualty of the rails rather than of the battlefield, when his train was wrecked. Mrs. Martin, as had Mrs. Cannon, filed suit against Campbell Wallace, superintendent of the road, for damages.

Both cases were carried to the State Supreme Court where the widows were denied relief. The opinion in the Cannon case was written by Chief Justice Hiram Warner; that in the Martin case by Warner's successor, Joseph E. Brown. Both jurists relied heavily on the ground that engineer and soldier alike, at the time of their deaths, were knowingly and voluntarily aiding and abetting armed rebellion against the legally constituted government of the United States![31] Judicially at least, the late Confederacy had fallen from grace.

By resolution of the General Assembly, approved October 27, 1870, the Commonwealth of Georgia acquired "the handsomest residence in the State," as the James' home at Peachtree and Cain was called, for use as an Executive Mansion. The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, The present temporary residence[32] of his Excellency the Governor is not suited for an Executive Mansion, nor becoming the dignity of Georgia: therefore—

"*Resolved,* That his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, authorized to receive from John H. James, of the city of Atlanta, a complete warrantee title to the State of Georgia, for a city lot, improvements, appurtenances and hereditaments thereto appurtaining, on which said James resides, including that portion of the lot in the rear of the residence, as well as all the household and kitchen furniture, and all other articles and implements, etc., connected with the premises, and the free use of the water-works, some distance in the rear, until the 'City Water-works' are established—said premises to be owned and used by the State as an Executive Mansion.

"2. *Resolved,* That as soon as said James shall have complied fully with the foregoing provisions, and put his Excellency in full possession of all said property, then his Excellency the Governor be, and he is hereby, authorized to pay said James therefor the sum of one hundred thousand dollars in seven per cent State bonds, having twenty years to run; and also, to transfer to said James the claim of the State upon the City of Atlanta, under the contract of said City to furnish an Executive Mansion; *Provided,* That this shall in no way deprive the State of any of the land promised the State by said city."[33]

Mr. James had paid $10,000 for the lot, running through to Spring Street and containing 1½ acres, while the house, designed by Architect W. H. Parkins, had cost $53,000.[34] The furnishings, also acquired by the State, probably cost a sizable sum, and, while James made a nice profit, no one has ever successfully contended that the State did not get a good buy. In 1871, a short while after the sale was consummated, James built another mansion in the same block, at the northwest corner of Peachtree and Ellis. This ornate building was acquired some years later by the Capital City Club, which occupied it until the present club house at Peachtree and Harris streets was built in 1911.

The old Governor's Mansion became symbolic of the era of post-bellum progress in Atlanta. Within its historic walls the destinies of a people were shaped, and in its spacious rooms the beauty and chivalry of two generations graced its floors. At its hospitable table the most distinguished and honored sons of the land feasted, and within its doors some of the most important policies of the State were dictated.[35]

First occupied by Governor Bullock, the mansion became the official home of a long line of distinguished Georgians—Benjamin Conley, James M. Smith, Alfred H. Colquitt, Alexander H. Stephens, who died there on March 4, 1883; James S. Boynton, Henry D. McDaniel, John B. Gordon, William J. Northen, William Y. Atkinson, Allen D. Candler, Joseph M. Terrell, Hoke Smith, Joseph M. Brown, John M. Slaton, Nathaniel E. Harris, and Hugh M. Dorsey.[36]

For some years prior to Dorsey's time the old home was becoming untenable as a residence. The passing years had taken their inexorable toll of brick, mortar, plaster and woodwork. Just as his term was about to end, Governor Dorsey, on June 23, 1921, vacated the mansion in favor of his summer home on Water Works Road, now Ridgewood Road, near the river. The shutters were closed, blinds were fastened and doors were shut at Peachtree and Cain streets.[37] The old landmark stood vacant, a frayed victorian sentinel of the past, until 1923, when it was demolished to make way for its twentieth century successors, the Henry Grady Hotel, Henry Grady Building, and Red Rock Building.[38]

The metamorphosis of the State Square, begun by Sherman's demolition squads in 1864, and hastened by the removal of the Macon and Western's freight depot, turntable and tracks in 1865, was consummated in 1870. H. I. Kimball built the finest hotel south of New York on the old Atlanta Hotel site; the iron passenger station, to serve adequately for some thirty years, and most inadequately for thirty more, was begun, and Atlanta's first downtown park, after much litigation, was divided into business lots, and soon disappeared under solid blocks of commercial structures.

The advantages of the former Atlanta Hotel site, vacant since the war, became manifest to H. I. Kimball early in 1870. He was gifted with probably more than his share of imagination, and could see, in his mind's eye, a magnificent successor to Atlanta's leading ante-bellum hotel—a structure that might spread the fame of Atlanta across the land. With Kimball, the step from vision to action was always a short one.

The land was owned by Dr. Joseph Thompson, proprietor of the old "Atlanta," except for a small parcel previously sold to John P. King, of Augusta, and the present Peters' Building site, owned by Richard Peters. Kimball obtained bonds for title from Dr. Thompson for most of the land and leases to the remainder. These lands were subject to large sums for unpaid purchase money, except the leased pieces which were merely rented. With these tenuous equities and no money, Mr. Kimball plannd and built the largest hotel in the Southern States. It was a magnificent example of frenzied finance operating on a shoestring. Yet Kimball had the magic touch, and could persuade anyone who had money to invest it in his enterprises. The only way to escape from such persuasion was to refuse to see him.[39]

During the early spring, under the supervision of Architect W. H. Parkins and Contractor John Calvin Peck, work on what came to be known later as the first H. I. Kimball House, went forward energetically. It was to be the first Atlanta building to boast safety passenger elevators and a central heating plant. By the middle of October, though not entirely completed, the hotel, frequently referred to as "too large for the community" and "way ahead of its time," was thrown open to the public. Upon this occasion Mr. Kimball, probably for the first time, was complimented by the *Atlanta Constitution*. In a front page story, on October 18, 1870, it said:

"Last night the new large hotel, about which so much has been said, was opened to the public. It is not fully completed, but two-thirds of the building is ready for guests and the rest will soon be done.

"We do not exaggerate when we say that this is an era in Atlanta's history. It marks saliently her city maturity. The cursory thinker does not properly estimate the significance of such an improvement in a growing place, nor its value to the place. It requires large capital to erect such a structure, and large capital fails to seek such an investment unless encouraged by the prospect of large travel and the certainty of a bright future for the city. An investment like this, therefore, is a brilliant augury of our assured development and commercial importance. It means that the swaddling clothes are cast off, and the place is booked among the capitalists and business men for a steady journey in the direction of metropolitan importance.

"While its effect is thus upon the world, its influence reacts at home. It adds to the value of city property and it encourages investment. It draws travel. People will pass through cities to stop at the fine hotels. In the selection of routes, the choice is given to those that pass through places having the finest hotel facilities.

"We might elaborate this point, but we leave our readers to amplify the view. Suffice it to say, that a man who projects and carries through such an enterprise as this magnificent hotel in a city, at such a stage of its growth as this is in the history of Atlanta, is a public benefactor, and whatever private returns he may reap, the thanks of his fellow-citizens are due to him for contributing to their private and general interests.

"We have called this hotel splendid. Well, it is. It is a splendid affair. It enables Atlanta to hold her own with any Southern city. Its appearance is imposing. Built in the highest style of improved modern architecture, it combines beauty and solidity in an eminent degree. Rising six stories high from the ground, having another story underground, it is topped with a handsome Mansard roof, with ornamental towers at each corner, and a central tower in front [Pryor St]. The building is painted a lovely shade of yellow and the trimmings are brown. The first story has an iron frame work on three sides, very ornamental. Over the large windows are heavy granite caps. Interior blinds shade the rooms.

"While the outside is handsome and ornamental, it cannot, of course, compare with marble buildings, such as we find in New York. But inside we venture nothing and speak from observation, when we declare that its interior will bear contrast with any hotel North or South. It is luxurious, splendid, palatial. Nothing has been left undone in glittering ornament and costly appurtenance to make it comfortable and beautiful.

"Entering the office, you find a wide, spacious room, with a tesselated pavement and handsome surroundings, the ceiling up in the fourth story, and on each story below, a wide walk, substantially balustraded. The effect of this is fine. For light and ventilation, the idea is good. To the lady guests an attractive promenade and an interesting view of the activity in the business part of the hotel is afforded. At night under the glare from the brilliant [gas] chandeliers the view is dazzling.

"Going below, we find in the basement a vast amount of substantial things, enormous machines, great engines, huge furnaces, large steam laundries. All of this complicated machinery is to heat and run the huge concern. A guest can have his soiled shirt done up in twenty minutes.

"Going upstairs, we find splendid ranges of parlors, suits of elegant rooms, wide halls, all thoroughly ventilated and lighted, and all magnificently furnished. The finest Brussels carpeting and gold-mounted walnut furniture fill the house from top to bottom. Over $20,000 of rich carpeting will cover the floors. Mammoth mirrors reflect the gazer everywhere. All is glitter and gorgeousness.

"But the dining room is the crowning beauty of the building. Every foot of wall and ceiling is splendidly frescoed. The ball room above is also a beauty of a room; and when used as a place for public meeting it can be entered from the street without any intercourse with the hotel.

"One great merit of this hotel is the provision made for light and air. An immense amount of space has been given to secure this desirable result. There is not a dark room in the building.

"The mantels are the beautiful marbleized iron, and were furnished at a cost of $12,000 by Huestis & Hope, of this city.

"The house has three steam elevators, one for persons, and two for baggage and food. For the information of the inexperienced, we would state that an elevator consists of a hole, eight or ten feet square running from the bottom to the top of the house, and having a door opening on each floor. In this hotel a room runs up and down by machinery, delivering passengers and freight at any story, and sparing guests located in the higher stories the fatigue of mounting the steps. By this convenience, a room in the top story is as pleasant as on the lower floor.

"The kitchen is a marvel of convenience and utility. It will well repay anyone to visit it and see what ingenuity has done in the culinary art.

"The building of this hotel in the brief space of time, is an unparalleled achievement. Mr. Peak states that six and a half months ago the timber was growing in the forest, and the brick clay in the clay bed unmoulded. Yet it is as solid as if years had been devoted to it. Timber has been seasoned under 250 degrees of heat in four days, so as to be hard enough to be used in making furniture. The Galt House in Louisville was two years building; the Fifth Avenue in New York three years. And but a little over six months will complete this hotel—the peer of any Southern hotel.

"There is not a cheap thing about it. The finest material, from top to bottom, has been used in it. It will cost Mr. Kimball over $600,000 when it is done. And it is a splendid monument to his energy and enterprise.

"The hotel will be kept by Mr. [S. E.] Crittenden, of New York, and Mr. [R. A.] McCombs, of Milledgeville, a strong team, both first-class hotel men. The services of Mr. Frank Warren, one of the best hotel clerks in the Union, have been engaged.

"The hotel opens under brilliant auspices. We trust that its magnificence may be an augury of Atlanta's future."

Builder Kimball soon encountered financial difficulties. Before the hotel was completed it was mortgaged to John Rice, of the Georgia National Bank, for $100,500, and to H. A. Johnston for $57,000. Kimball then sold it to the Atlanta Improvement Company (a corporation organized presumably for that purpose) for the alleged consideration of $650,000. That Company then mortgaged the hotel on July 7, 1871, to secure an issue of $400,000 of bonds. Even these large sums did not suffice to complete the job. After two sheriff's sales, one for a mechanic's lien in favor of J. C. Peck & Company, and another for unpaid County taxes, the property was sold to a syndicate which paid off the purchase-money claims and obtained title from Dr. Thompson. The bondholders lost out and Mr. Kimball lost out,[40] but the community had its hotel, a source of prestige and wonderment until its total destruction by fire in the summer of 1883.

It will be remembered that Samuel Mitchell, of Pike County, had, in 1842, deeded five acres, subsequently known as the State Square, to the State for use by the W. & A. R. R., and for railroad purposes only. In 1846 he made a similar restrictive deed to the Macon and Western R. R., involving land between the W. & A. right-of-way and Alabama Street. In 1853, the freight house, shops and offices of the W. & A., were removed from the State Square, and the City of Atlanta, a few years later, was granted the right to beautify the area between the depot and Decatur Street for use as a park. The precaution was taken to run a side track into this area so as to hold the property from reversion. After the removal of the Macon and Western in 1865, the heirs of Samuel Mitchell, who had died in 1847, decided to assert their rights. Accordingly, in 1867, through attorneys, they claimed that non-use of the property, including the park, for railroad purposes, violated the terms of the original deeds, and entered suit to recover all of the land so deeded and not then being used for railroad purposes.[41]

It did not take the Mitchell heirs, most of whom lived in Zebulon and Barnesville, long to see that litigation with the State would be tedious and drawn out. They therefore subtitled a written proposal. The result was a compromise, approved by the legislature on October 25, 1870. Briefly, the agreement provided for a gift to the State by the heirs, of the park property north of the depot with a space reserved for a street which was subsequently opened as Wall Street.[42] The State, in turn, would convey to the heirs the remainder of the tract, for the most part south of the depot. In addition the heirs agreed to pay to the State the sum of $35,000 toward the building of the new passenger depot, then under construction. While the matter was pending in the legislature a written proposal was received by the State from Alfred Austell and a group of businessmen to the effect that if the property were put up at auction they would start the bidding at $100,000. The proposal was declined, but it illustrates the valuation responsible business men placed on the property.[43]

The agreement with the Mitchell heirs permitted a plat and sale of both tracts, to which opportunity realtor George W. Adair responded with alacrity.

The sale was advertised to begin at 10 A. M., November 3, 1870.[44] As a starter, Joseph E. Brown instructed Adair to enter a bid of $300 a front foot for the lot at the northwest corner of Pryor and what was to become Wall Street. Mr. Adair recalled later that Brown bought several of the lots, and that Judge Bleckley, Daniel Pittman, Foster Blodgett, and Judge O. A. Lochrane, all acting as attorneys in the matter, likewise bought property in the block. He also recalled that every lot was sold in about three hours, and that his commissions, amounting to $7,500, were the largest auction commissions he ever received in one day.[45]

And so Atlanta lost its original park, a beauty spot in the middle of town, with large forest trees, white sanded walks, flower beds and rustic benches. The cause of the Mitchell heirs was of doubtful legality but was probably just in the domain of morals. The surrender of the ground by the State was criticized by many, including General Robert Toombs, who could not conceive of the Legislature of 1870 being animated by any lofty motive. Be that as it may the park site was soon covered by valuable buildings, and the City tax digest was considerably enhanced.[46]

Since the close of the war the importance of Atlanta as a railway center had in no wise been reflected in its accommodations for the traveling public, a temporary wooden structure, erected hastily on the site of the brick depot destroyed by the Federal army in November, 1864.

That the need for better facilities had been recognized for some time is reflected in a letter from Edward Hulbert, then superintendent of the W. & A., to Governor Bullock on October 1, 1868:

". . . The want of a suitable passenger depot at Atlanta is being severely felt by all the roads in interest. Steps should be taken next spring for the erection of a building adequate to the future wants of the roads now in operation as well as those projected. Without counselling extravagance, I would suggest that it be one every way worthy of the great railway interests it will represent, as well as that of the great railway center of the South, the GATE CITY."[47]

By June 3, 1870, officials of the four lines of railway then entering Atlanta had reached an agreement providing for the erection of a new depot. On that day they advertised that they would receive proposals, accompanied with plans and specifications, for "first-class passenger depot, 350 feet long, 120 feet wide. Ground plan to be secured for baggage room, ladies' sitting room, ticket office, restaurant, express office, with wash room, water closets, etc., in complete order. Everything above foundations to be surveyed and finished by contractors. Plans for stone, brick and iron will be considered. All plans and estimates to be submitted on or before June 20, 1870, and building to be completed on or before October 20, 1870."[48]

Bids were apparently submitted promptly, for on June 21, 1870, a contract was awarded. *The Constitution,* on June 22nd, commented:

"A lithograph view of the plan of the new Union Passenger Depot, to be erected here, can be seen at Redwine & Fox's Drug Store. The contract for building was awarded yesterday, to Mr. Adams, who represents the firm of J. P. Stidham & Co., Builders, Philadelphia. The building will run from Pryor to Loyd Street, and will be 130 feet wide. The building proper, including roof, will be of iron. The offices will be of brick, requiring some 300,000 to build them. The side fronting Decatur Street [across from the old city park, about to disappear] will be occupied by the various offices; while that fronting Alabama will be open.

"The Western & Atlantic, Macon & Western, Georgia, Atlanta & West Point, and Air-line roads will have tracks running through the depot.

"Two steeples will ornament the Proyor, and two the Loyd Street end, and one the center, over the ticket office. The building will cost $135,000."

Construction began immediately, but the deadline specified in the advertisement for bids, October 20, 1870, was far from met. Indeed, by the late spring of 1871, the local press was speculating as to when the depot might be completed, and making wry comment as to the condition of the unfinished building.[49] Before the year was out, however, Atlanta had what was then regarded as one of the "handsomest, largest and most commodious iron depots" in the country.[50] By that time the transformation of the old State Square was complete.

While the hustle and bustle of business motivated the activities of most Atlantans in 1870, they were by no means immune to the blandishments of entertainment, both sedentary and active.

As noted earlier, Laurent DeGive, native of Belgium and founder of a noted Atlanta family, had purchased the still-born Masonic Temple on the northeast corner of Marietta and Forsyth streets. He infused life into the incomplete building by finishing it as DeGive's Opera House.

On the eventing of January 24, 1870, the actor E. Rosse Dalton opened the new theater with a presentation of Richeliu. Among those present was *Constitution* Editor Isaac W. Avery, who wrote:

"We are glad to see the legitimate drama again being enacted upon the boards of our Southern theaters. . . .

"Under the influence of his [Dalton's] exquisite acting we imagined ourselves amidst those stirring scenes and thought we saw in Dalton the towering genius of Richelieu; but when he said, in the second act, to his Page Francis, 'Put away the sword, boy, the State can be saved without it,' we involuntarily thought, how true of this State, alas!

"We have but two criticisms to make:

"Dalton is to his troupe what Richelieu was to those who surrounded him—immeasurably their superior. With a well-supporting troupe, he, with his fine dramatic talent, would soon rank among the first of living actors. Young, a student and ambitious, he must succeed. Our other criticism is, that he allows just a little too much of his youthful vim to enter into his representation of the aged Cardinal.

"We heartily commend this theater to the good people of this city as a source of refined enjoyment."[51]

From thence forth DeGive's was put on all the "circuits,' and an actor of talent with a classic repertoire could count upon a good, if sometimes ill-behaved house. Before the year had run its course, the first of the immortals came to grace the footlights of DeGive's. Beginning Monday, December 5, 1870, Edwin Forrest played on five consecutive evenings in Virginius, Richelieu, Hamlet, King Lear, and Damon and Pythias. Reserved seats had been placed on sale November 28th, and special trains were provided to accommodate play-goers in neighboring towns.[52]

Until Laurent DeGive built the Grand Opera House, now the Grand Theater, twenty-three years later, old DeGive's remained the mecca of theater-going Atlantans.

For young seekers of active amusement in the Atlanta of 1870, the newly established roller-skating rink in Glenn & Wright's building at Forsyth Street and the railroad[53] was proving to be immensely popular. A half-page advertisement in Hanleiter's City Directory for 1870 carried the following announcement:

ATLANTA ROLLER-SKATING ASSOCIATION

Glenn & Wright's New Hall

Corner Forsyth Street and Railroad

The Skating Rink

Is open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Evenings from 7 to 10 o'clock, Monday, Wednesday and Friday Afternoons from 2 to 5 o'clock. Every Forenoon from 9 to 12 o'clock.

Teachers will be in attendance during the day-assemblies to teach gratuitously those wishing to learn.
Admission Free for Ladies and Children to morning and afternoon assemblies.
Hall over Glenn & Wright's, corner Forsyth Street and Railroad

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Packages of 12 Tickets	$3.00	Single Tickets	$ .50
Half Tickets	.25	Use of Skates	.25

Tickets for sale at Phillips & Crew's Book Store

Under date of January 8, 1870, bookseller S. P. Richards noted in his diary:

"Tonight Sallie and Dora & Irene went with me to the Skating Rink to see what has created such an excitement among the young folks. We found the large Hall that erst was used for the Great Baptist Fair fairly alive with skaters, boys and girls, young men and young women whirling and gliding to and fro with infinite zest and energy. 'Roller Skating' would seem to be a pretty good substitute for the thing on ice. Dora and Rene were very anxious to skate if they only knew how."

For those in the position of the Misses Richards, the *Constitution* came to the rescue a few days later.

"Advice to Skaters.—We give the following advice gratis to those learning how to skate: Never try to skate in two directions at once. Though often made by beginners, this movement has never proved a success. Eat a few apples while skating, and throw the cores on the floor for fast skaters to break their shins over. Then lay back and enjoy the fun. Sit down occasionlly—no matter where—right in the way of the rest, if you want to—only be certain to set down often. There is no law to prevent you from sitting down when you are so inclined. When you meet a peculiarly handsome lady, try to skate on both sides of her at once. This will create a sensation, too, if her lover or big brother happens to be about.

"When sitting down, do it gradually and gracefully. Don't be too sudden, something might break. Don't give up at the first fall. Remember that the greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time you fall. When entitled to the floor, never display your pedal extremities elevated above your head. It might cause a descent of brain, and besides it is a feat too unpolite for the skating circle. Never disturb the equilibrium of your body, by gyrations with the hands. Keep them in your pockets, and by all means never try to skate on all fours, or on your head."[54]

Atlanta's first roller skating rink began to decline in popularity when, not long afterward, Miss Sallie Walker Solomon, a reigning belle, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Solomon, received fatal injuries as a result of her skating efforts.[55]

During the fall of 1870 the first of an annual series of Georgia State Fairs was held at Oglethorpe Park, the new fair grounds on the W. & A. R. R., purchased by the city the preceding year. This woodland retreat, now the site of the Exposition Cotton Mills, was described by a contemporary writer:

> "Oglethorpe Park is one of the most pleasant drives around the city. Besides its race-course, it has a beautiful lake, where parties can enjoy the pleasure of boat-riding and rowing. This would be a very beneficial exercise for our feeble young ladies who are suffering from narrow chests and crooked spines; and it is to be hoped that they will not fail to avail themselves of such a healthful amusement. Oglethorpe has, besides its lake, many things to render it a pleasant place of resort; and it will doubtless have many visitors during the summer. How pleasant to escape from the din, bustle, and dust of city life, and to spend a few hours in a quiet retreat which nature and art have both combined to render attractive."[56]

The purchase of this property by the city was encouraged by Hannibal I. Kimball, who despite his great contemporary hotel building effort, found time also to promote the Fair of 1870. It opened on October 18th, and, while primarily agricultural, had many of the attractions usually associated with fairs of the period, but not including a "midway" as we know it today. That it was a success from the standpoint of attendance is indicated by the fact that on Saturday, October 21st, 20,000 people were on the grounds, a number nearly equal to the population of Atlanta. The W. & A. R. R., which offered a special excursion rate for the occasion, had a train of fifteen loaded cars departing from the city every half-hour.[57]

De Kalb County made an excellent showing at the fair and carried off a number of premiums. Lithonia was represented by John C. Ragsdale, who took a premium for an essay. Dan Johnson took prizes for best stock corn, best cotton yield per acre, best yield of sweet potatoes and best peas. The premium for best bread corn went to Dr. W. P. Bond, while Easom Bond displayed the best sorghum syrup and finest sweet potatoes. Decatur was represented by J. N. Pate, who took the premium for the best jack; J. G. Laird, best mare and mule colt; James Kirkpatrick, best mare and colt; Thomas F. Lowe, best old-time fiddling; Miss Lizzie Swanton, best handiwork. Kirkwood was represented by Miss Tarver, who took a premium for the most artistic painting, and George Kidd, best vegetables.[58]

The fair furnished the site and occasion for the first trap-pigeon-shooting event ever held in the city. On October 31st, Charles Heinz, the gunsmith, assembled a number of amateur sportsmen at the grounds to inaugurate this interesting pastime locally. The birds, two at a time, were released from traps three yards apart and twenty-one yards from the marksmen. Of twenty-seven live birds so released, only two escaped. Dr. E. A. Billups led the field, Colonel Dearing, next, and Dr. Hape and Colonel Morrison, of Stone Mountain, tied.[59]

One of the more interesting events was a contest to determine the best fiddler in Georgia. The two leading contestants were G. Whit Anderson, marshal of Atlanta, and "Uncle Tommie" Lowe. Anderson had been known as the best fiddler around Knucklesville, his old home in Lumpkin County. The tune selected for the occasion was the "Arkansas Traveler," the renditions thereof by Anderson and Lowe creating a veritable sensation. Upon Lowe being declared winner, Anderson went up to him and said: "Mr. Lowe, I want to say to you that, having found somebody that can beat me playing 'Arkansas Traveler' as bad as you can, I will never draw another bow." And they say he never did.[60]

Another feature of the fair was a tournament, after the style of the tournaments of old, where armored knights rode with lances. The rider who could catch on his lance the greatest number of rings that swung from a post was the champion. The entrants, from various parts of the State, were called the "Knight of Euharlee," the "Knight of Oconee," etc.[61]

This contest ended in tragedy. Michael E. Kenny, a clever Irish resident of Atlanta and proprietor of the Chicago Ale Depot on Pryor Street, riding a spirited and somewhat dangerous horse, was thrown against a post and killed when the animal, in a fright, leaped the railing on a curve. Kenny's Alley, running east from Pryor to Central Avenue, bears the name of this popular citzen, who lies buried in Oakland Cemetery.[62]

The religious life of the Atlanta area has always kept abreast of secular developments, and, in 1870, passed some important milestones. Since 1847, with the exception of a few months in 1864, the Episcopal denomination in Atlanta had been represented by one church, St. Philip's. War-time St. Luke's on Walton Street became a casualty when Atlanta was burned and thus passed out of existence.

Nearly six years later, in his address to the 48th Annual Diocesan Convention, held on May 4, 1870, The Rt. Rev. John Beckwith, second Bishop of the Diocese of Georgia, said: "The rapid growth of this [Atlanta] renders one Parish and one Rector, however zealous, entirely inadequate to the demands made upon the church. It will not be long, I trust, before a new Parish will be organized and in full operation." Soon thereafter, on June 18th, the Bishop gave his canonical consent to the organization of a new Parish in Atlanta.[63]

The organization of this new Parish, which adopted the name "St. Stephen's Church," was completed on or about July 15, 1870, and The Rev. Mr. Joseph H. Cross was installed as Rector. Space was secured in the Orphan's Free School Building at the southeast corner of Walton and Forsyth streets.[64]

On Sunday, July 24, 1870, S. P. Richards noted in his diary:

"We heard Dr. Brantley at our Lecture Room this morning and tonight Dr. Cross at the new Epis. Church. He is the rector of St. Stephen's, the new Epis. Church here."

Among the original members of St. Stephen's were: Joseph H. Smith, Holmes Sells, S. B. Oatman, T. S. Wood, W. W. Grant, W. S. Walker, William Powers, George W. Price, J. M. Johnson, C. L. Green, Richard Clark, and E. Withers. Organization was perfected by the election of Dr. J. M. Johnson, senior warden; Beverly W. Wrenn, junior warden; Dr. Holmes Sells, William S. Walker, Joseph H. Smith, William Powers, T. S. Wood, and James Williams, vestrymen.[65]

During the month of May, 1871, St. Stephen's was admitted into union and convention with the Diocese of Georgia, and the first rector, Mr. Cross, resigned and left for Missouri. Mr. George Macauley, onetime Rector of St. Paul's Church in Albany, Georgia, was elected to succeed the departed Mr. Cross.[66]

In January, 1872, the name of the new Parish was changed from St. Stephen's to St. Luke's. Not long afterward, as to all growing churches, a need for a building of its own arose, and, on May 5, 1874, the Parish purchased from William C. Moore a lot 100 feet square at the southeast corner of Spring and Walton streets. Here, under the supervision of Architect Bushrod W. Frobel, a church building 85 feet square, surmounted by a 95 foot tower was erected. The building had a seating capacity of 450, and was completed November 14, 1875, on which date Bishop John W. Beckwith preached the first sermon and conducted the first confirmation service in the new sanctuary.[67]

This ambitious building project saddled the still small congregation with a heavy burden of debt. Creditors several times threatened a sheriff's sale of the Church property. Finally in desperation, the wardens and vestry petitioned The Rt. Rev. John W. Beckwith to take charge of the church. The Bishop responded to the petition on April 10, 1881, and made it his cathedral. For the next thirteen years it continued as "St. Luke's Cathedral," although it was not a cathedral in the same sense that St. Philip's is today. Actually St. Luke's was the Bishop's Church and he styled himself the Rector, with the active minister designated as Priest-in-Charge. It was not until 1889 that the Bishop formally designated The Very Rev. Robert S. Barnett as the first Dean of the Cathedral.[68]

Meanwhile, in 1882, St. Luke's Cathedral had disposed of its property at Spring and Walton streets, and erected a new building at the northeast corner of Pryor and Houston streets, in which services were first held on February 9, 1883. This building 50 x 100 feet in size was built of brick and had a slate roof. It continued in use until 1906, when the present church, 435 Peachtree Street was occupied, at which time the Rev. Carey B. Wilmer was Rector.[69]

By this time however, St. Luke's was no longer a Cathedral. As a result of action taken at the Annual Diocesan Conventions of 1893 and 1894, a new cathedral was provided for, under separate canons and with an elaborate setup for administrative purposes. There was thus created a true Cathedral of the diocese as it exists today, and St. Philip's Church became the Cathedral. On July 21, 1894, the rector, wardens, vestry and congregation of St. Luke's Church cheerfully consented to the change. Indeed the orginal purpose for which it had been named the Bishop's Church had become fully accomplished.[70]

Since 1848, old Wesley Chapel, on Peachtree opposite the present Piedmont Hotel site, and the oldest church building then standing in the city, had maintained consistent leadership in the Methodist denomination of this section. By 1870, however, it had become far too small for its congregation, which incidentally, already owned the land upon which the Candler Building now stands. On March 14, 1870, following a decision to build on this site, a building committee composed of Er Lawshe, Joseph Winship, Robert F. Maddox, George W. D. Cook, Frank P. Rice, James C. Davis and George Winship, signed a building contract with William G. Newman and John N Fain, as contractors, and William H. Parkins, as architect.[71]

The cornerstone of the First Methodist Church, successor to Wesley Chapel, was laid with impressive ceremonies, on Thursday, September 1, 1870, the attendance, according to the *Constitution,* "embracing the beauty, the wealth, fashion and intelligence of the city." The Masons participated prominently in the exercises, and the Post Band was on hand to render appropriate musical selections. The cornerstone itself was octagon shaped, and cut out of beautiful white granite. On one side of the rock was carved "W. P. Harrison, Pastor; W. H. Parkins, Architect; Newman & Fain, Builders." On another side. "Samuel Lawrence, M.W.G.M.', and under this some handsome Masonic emblems. Still another side of the stone bore the inscription, "First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1st September, 1870."[72]

The new church, Gothic in style, surmounted by a spire 170 feet high, was occupied by its congregation the following year, and historic old Wesley Chapel disappeared forever from the sight of man. A one-paragraph notice in the *Constitution* of October 22, 1871, served as its obituary:

> "PASSING AWAY.—The church edifice known and revered as "Wesley Chapel" is rapidly passing away. The timbers are being torn away and hauled off."

For more than a generation the new First Methodist church was to serve its purpose well, its tall spire a familiar downtown landmark and a graceful sentinel to the glory of God.

Through the munificence of John H. James a new Baptist Church, appropriately called James' Chapel, was built contiguous to West End in the angle formed by Whitehall Street and the M. & W. Railroad. S. P. Richards, a staunch member of Second Baptist, recorded on his diary on Sunday, June 12, 1870:

> ". . . This aft. Bro. James' phaeton came with Mrs. West and took us out to James' new brick chapel at West End, and Dr. Brantley [pastor 2nd Baptist] preached . . . a dedication service."

James' Chapel, soon to become the Fourth Baptist Church, was first served by the Rev. F. M. Daniel. The Sunday school had as its superintendent, Dr. J. Stainback Wilson, whose assistant was Virgil C. Norcross, son of pioneer citizen Jonathan Norcross, and then just beginning a long career in the Baptist ministry.[73]

Out to the north of the city, at the intersection of the Plaster Bridge [Piedmont] and Montgomery Ferry roads, the Rock Spring Presbyterian Church was organized on November 13, 1870. The Rev. Myron D. Wood and the elders of the Decatur Presbyterian Church met for this purpose with a group from the Rock Spring community, and completed the organization with 27. charter members. The original church building, subsequently enlarged, and since completely rebuilt, was erected under the pastorate of the Rev. Richard Ketchum.[74]

Among the pioneer citizens who rest from their labors in the Rock Spring cemetery, adjoining the church are: Jerome Bearse, James P. Brockman, James M. Butler, Richard M. Head, Daniel W. and Captain James M. Liddell, Thomas N. Paden, J. B. Peavy, Daniel L. and Edwin Plaster, James W. and Robert H. Smith, and Michael A. Steele.[75]

It is something of an anachronism that the city of Atlanta secured a full-fledged University before it enjoyed the benefits of a public school system.

Oglethorpe University opened its halls of learning in January, 1838, at Midway near Milledgeville in Baldwin County under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. Through the years it made steady progress, and by the time the War Between the States began it had an average of 120 students and an excellent faculty. As a result of the war the college was disbanded and its wealth swept away.[76]

Abortive attempts were made to reopen at Midway after the war, but neither the spirit nor the flesh was equal to the occasion. The glory of ante-bellum days in Baldwin County could not be recalled in the late eighteen-sixties. With removal of the seat of state government from Milledgeville to Atlanta in 1868, the former, like Rip Van Winkle sank into a long slumber.[77]

The capital removal renewed latent agitation to remove the University to a more favorable location. Finally, late in 1869 the Trustees, with the approval of the synods of Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, voted to move Oglethorpe to Atlanta, the city having proposed to furnish an endowment in the amount of $40,000.[78]

On February 3, 1870, a citizens' meeting was held in the Atlanta City Hall to discuss plans for raising the endowment. Dr. William M. Cunningham, president of the University was invited to be the principal speaker. At the suggestion of Judge S. B. Hoyt a committee of citizens was appointed to present the matter to the people. It consisted of S. B. Hoyt, Edward Y. Clarke, James M. Ball, John H. James, Lewis Schofield, L. P. Grant, Edward E. Rawson, William G. Newman, William A. Moore, William McNaught, and George W. Adair. A sub-committee consisting of Grant, Ball and Clarke was then appointed to solicit subscriptions.[79]

The endowment was raised in due course, during which time the matter of a location in Atlanta was thoroughly canvassed. This problem eventuated in the purchase of the former John Neal home, lately General W. T. Sherman's headquarters, at the southwest corner of Washington and Mitchell streets. It was thought that this central location would insure a liberal patronage.[80]

On October 4, 1870, Oglethorpe University opened in Atlanta with a corps of five professors in the college, six instructors in the law department, and three teachers in the University High School; and with ambitious plans already formulated for a medical college, a commercial department, and a civil engineering school. The Rev. David Wills had succeeded Dr. Cunningham as president, the latter having died March 4, 1870.[81]

Dr. Wills was fortunate in the selection of his faculty. The Rev. Donald Fraser (1826-1887), professor of ancient languages, was born in Liberty County, Georgia, and graduated from Oglethorpe in the class of 1848. After serving as pastor of Presbyterian churches in his native county and in Florida, he was made chaplain, in 1861, of the Second Florida Regiment, C.S.A.

After the war he resumed his ministerial duties until called to teach at his Alma Mater. Professor Fraser had the gift of imparting knowledge so attractively that he achieved the unusual feat of making Greek and Latin interesting to his students. While teaching at Oglethorpe he boarded with his family at the Calico House, the home of one of his students. Piromis H. Bell. Upon the closing of Oglethorpe a couple of years later, Professor Fraser moved to Decatur, where he served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church and opened the noted Donald Fraser High School. He was the father of the late Rev. Chalmers Fraser (1856-1912). Our well-known fellow citizen, Fritz Orr, is a great-grandson.[82]

Benjamin T. Hunter, Oglethorpe '57, was elected professor of physical science, and subsequently returned to Athens to become the first president of the Georgia Industrial College. Gustavus John Orr (1819-1887), professor of mathematics at Oglethorpe was destined to achieve great distinction in the history of Georgia education as the State's first School Commissioner from 1872 to 1887. At the time of his death he had earned the title of "father of the common school system in Georgia." The other original college faculty members were W. W. Lumpkin, co-teacher of Professor Hunter and Walter Le Conte Stevens, the youngest of the group. Stevens, professor of chemistry, was a nephew of the noted Professor Joseph Le Conte, and grew up in Liberty County. In after years he became internationally known for his research in the field of physics.[83]

The Law School, detached from the University and financed by the tuition fees of the students, was conducted by a corps of outstanding Atlanta lawyers. Judge Richard H. Clark taught international and constitutional law; General Lucius J. Gartrell, criminal law; A. C. Garlington, equity, jurisprudence, pleadings and practice; Logan E. Bleckley, Samuel B. Hoyt, and Nathaniel J. Hammond, common law, general principles, pleadings and practice.[84]

The Commercial Department was formed by taking over a business college founded by Benjamin F. Moore in 1858, located at Whitehall and Hunter streets. Professor Moore himself, became principal, together with two assistants. This department of the college aimed "to qualify young men for the duties of active business life."[85]

A night school was opened by the University to offer the advantages of a college education to many who could not attend during the day. This was indeed an inovation, and constituted the first evening college in the city, and probably the first in the State. By so doing Oglethorpe was answering a need of the new commercial and industrial South and setting an example that colleges in Georgia were slow to follow.[86]

Within two years after opening in Atlanta, Oglethorpe had become an essential part of the life of the city. Its course of study was broad for that day, and its graduates were well prepared to take their places in the budding New South. Of the 19 who had received degrees in '71 and '72, five became ministers, four lawyers, two professors, and the others businessmen. One, Joseph M. Brown, a son of Georgia's war governor, was to become governor himself.[87]

The third term had hardly commenced in October, 1872, when the Synod of Georgia ordered the University to be closed. Financial troubles had beset the institution. With only $2,608.88 in the school treasury, and with no immediate prospects of additional endowments, there was no other recourse. The seniors were given their diplomas and sorrowfully began to make plans to leave.

One more function yet remained, however, and it, at least, was a happy one. Immediately after receiving his diploma, William Thomas Hollingsworth was married to Mary Frances Wills, daughter of the president, who performed the ceremony at the Neal House. Present were the seniors, the bride's family, and many friends. It was the last recorded function at old Oglethorpe. The University had begun in 1835 with a prayer meeting in Milledgeville. It closed at Christmas, 1872, with a wedding in Atlanta. Forty years later it was destined to rise again.[88]

Since 1845, when Atlanta boasted a population of about 200, the city had been a lodestone for journalistic ventures, most of them short-lived. The year 1870 produced two new dailies, neither to enjoy a long life.

The Atlanta *Daily Sun,* A. M. Speights & Company, proprietors, appeared May 18th, with the following sprightly announcement upon its masthead:

"Today 'The Daily Sun' rises to the 'music of the times.' Its patrons, will be furnished light every day, for five dollars a year, or once a week, for the small sum of one dollar per annum." A year later the *Sun* was described as "a small, cheap, sprightly, wide-awake paper, edited by Mr. A. R. Watson, who has recently associated with him Hon. Cincinnatus Peeples . . . an able lawyer and politician. Mr. Watson is a dashing, free and easy, sharp-witted writer, just suited for such a paper as the *Sun.*"[89]

In 1871 ownership of the paper was vested in the Atlanta Sun Publishing Company, Alexander H. Stephens, Archibald M. Speights, J. Henly Smith, Proprietors. At this time it rivaled the *Constitution,* but was merged with the older paper in June, 1873.[90]

Slightly more than a month after the *Sun* arose, the *Daily True Georgian* made its appearance on June 28, 1870. Its proprietor was the irrepressible Dr. Samuel Bard, former editor of the Republican *New Era.* Chief editorial writer was Charles W. Hubner. In a few months the *True Georgian* was converted to a weekly and became more of a literary and family paper than a newspaper.[91]

Until 1870, the city of Atlanta had been favored with the publication of only two city directories, that of Williams, in 1859, and Barnwell, in 1867. William R. Hanleiter, a young man of 30, and son of pioneer Atlanta journalist and telegrapher, Cornelius R. Hanleiter, decided, in 1870, to remedy this deficiency. His three annual directories, 1870, 1871 and 1872, each embellished with a folding map of the city, served the citizens well when current, and the few surviving copies have, during the intervening eighty odd years, become collector's items and a staff for the local historian to lean upon.[92]

Construction of the Air-Line Railroad progressed steadily throughout the year 1870. By November 1st, grading had been nearly completed to Gainesville,[93] and new towns along the line between that point and Atlanta were being established. One of these was Norcross, named for one of the original promoters of the railroad, Jonathan Norcross. It was incorporated by an Act of the Legislature approved October 26, 1870, which provided that the town limits should extend three quarters of a mile in all directions from the depot on the Georgia Air-Line Railroad. Original commissioners of the town were John J. Thrasher, formerly of Atlanta; Jesse Thrasher, Gormon T. Robinson and Stephen T. McElroy.[94]

Benefits accruing from the new railroad were already being felt in Atlanta, as indicated by a news article in the *Constitution* for October 19, 1870.

"FIRST COTTON OVER THE 'AIR-LINE'.—On Monday, the 17th instant, the first shipment of cotton (3 bales) on the Atlanta and Richmond Air-Line Railroad, was received at the Broad Street warehouse, by C. H. Strong, cotton commission merchant. This cotton was grown on the farms of Eli McDaniel and S. A. Mitchell, Esqs., of Gwinnett County, and classed New York middling. It was ginned by J. R. Hopkins, Esq., at the 'Beaver Run Novelty Works,' three miles east of Norcross, and Judge Strong says is as well ginned as any cotton that has come to his market. In connection with the mention of this shipment of cotton, it is not inappropriate to say that our former fellow-citizen, Cousin John Thrasher, with his wide-awake energy, is fast infusing life into the beautiful village of Norcross. His splendid hotel, and his known character as a finished gentleman and good feeder, will make Norcross a place of resort for our citizens during the summer months. We cannot conclude this article without mentioning to our fellow-citizens of Broad Street that they owe a debt of gratitude to our energetic friend, Strong, for the revolution in trade on that street. Crowds of wagons are daily discharging cotton, and the hum of busy life is heard where comparative silence formerly reigned."[95]

A major factor in the growth of Atlanta as an industrial center has been the high caliber of citizens the city has attracted from other parts of the country. One such citizen, who arrived in the spring of 1870, was Edward Van Winkle (1841-1923), a native of Paterson, New Jersey, and the son of a successful builder of cotton machinery. During a visit to the South, Mr. Van Winkle noted that this section was a promising field for mechanical skill and decided to settle in Atlanta. He soon set up shop in a small wooden shed on the W. & A. R. R., near Foundry Street, and aside from general foundry work, began to manufacture a power cotton press of his own patent. Success attended his efforts, and, in 1880 W. W. Boyd became a full partner in the firm, then known as E. Van Winkle & Co., and located at Marietta and Magnolia streets. In 1884 branch works were established in Dallas, Texas. A full line of cotton gins and cotton seed oil machinery was featured, and continued growth necessitated another change of location during the middle 1890's. This time a commodious brick plant was erected three miles out at the junction of the W. & A., Seaboard and Southern railways—the present location of the Murray Company, successor to the Van Winkle Gin and Machine Works. At the turn of the century officers of the Van Winkle enterprise, besides the founder, were Edward P. McBurney, vice-president, and Mell R. Wilkinson, secretary-treasurer. Edward Van Winkle was married in 1864, to Miss Amelia King, of San Francisco, California. The imposing red brick home, in which he died in 1923, stood for many years at the northeast corner of West Peachtree and Third streets. Edward K. Van Winkle, widely known Atlanta contractor, is a grandson.[96]

The nearby town of East Point, located as it is at the junction of two railroads, took an early turn toward industrialization. One of its first industries was the East Point Jug Factory, the incorporators of which were Thomas G. Simms, James D. Robinson, J. T. Lumpkin, C. W. Hubner, J. S. Nall, E. P. Howell, Volney Dunning, and W. G. Whidby. The Act of incorporation was approved October 25, 1870.[97]

The *Atlanta Constitution,* which took a dim view of the Legislature of 1870 and all its works, commented on November 1st:

"The East Point Jug Factory has been organized by the election of Thomas G. Simms,[98] President; J. D. Lloyd, Secretary; J. T. Lumpkin, Treasurer; J. S. Nall, Inspector, and James D. Robinson, Superintendent. We learn that the President leaves for the North in a few days, in the interest of the company. The jugs that were promised to members of the Legislature for voting for the bill incorporating the company, will be ready for delivery by New Year's Day."

The streets of Atlanta, despite the rapid growth of the town, remained guiltless of pavement. During periods of rain they became quagmires and in dry weather emitted great clouds of suffocating dust. By 1870, however, efforts were being made to at least keep the downtown thoroughfares clean, as indicated by the following sections from the City Code of that year:

"Any person or persons who reside on or do business on any of the following streets in the boundaries specified, to wit:

Up Peachtree Street to Ellis Street;
Down Decatur Street to Calhoun Street;
Along Loyd Street to Alabama Street;
Up Alabama Street to Forsyth Street;
Up Mitchell Street to Forsyth Street;
Up Forsyth Street to its junction with Peachtree Street;
The entire length of Broad Street;
Up Marietta Street to Foundry Street;

who shall deposit on any of the aforesaid streets, or the sidewalks of said streets, any sweepings from any stores, or dwelling houses, or places of business, or any paper, hair, fuel, slop or washings of any kind, and suffer the same to remain more than six hours on either sidewalks or streets, after having been notified to remove the same by the Marshal, or Deputy Marshal . . . shall be fined not exceeding one hundred dollars, or imprisoned for not exceeding thirty days. . . .

"For the convenience of all persons affected by the preceding section, it shall be their duty to place all accumulations therein mentioned, in a box, or other receptacle, and place the same on the outside of sidewalk on every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, at six o'clock, A.M., at which time the Street Overseer shall have all such accumulations removed according to his discretion."[99]

A sanitary department in swaddling clothes!

Aside from a lack of pavement, the streets of Atlanta, during this period also lacked shade. The war had played havoc with shade trees generally, although a few along Marietta Street between Forsyth and Bartow yet remained.[100] To further add to the discomfort of pedestrians the principal streets were often preempted by live stock—cattle and mules, singly or in droves, followed by their drivers.[101] Indeed Atlanta presented the spectacle of a thriving city astride a series of country roads.

The death of General Robert E. Lee, at Lexington, Virginia, on October 12, 1870, brought universal sorrow throughout the South and cast a pall of gloom over Atlanta. The news was received by telegraph late in the evening of the 12th, and, acting by spontaneous impulse a meeting of citizens was held that night at DeGive's Opera House. Major George Hillyer was called to the chair, and on motion of Captain Henry Jackson a committee of five, consisting of himself, Colonel E. F. Hoge, S. R. Hoyle, W. R. Hanleiter and W. T. Newman, was appointed to report a time and place for fitting obsequies to the memory of the revered hero. It was suggested that General John B. Gordon and others should be asked to deliver eulogies, and that the Ladies' Memorial Association and the pastors of the various churches be requested to cooperate. The committee was then enlarged to 21 members by the addition of Dr. James F. Alexander, H. R. Christian, Col. M. E. Reese, Dr. W. F. Westmoreland, V. P. Sisson, Dr. Amos Fox, Willis R. Biggers, Col. L. J. Glenn, Max Corput, Michael Mahoney, Capt. J. Milledge, Jr., Major W. B. Cox, Capt. John Keely, Philip Dodd, and Major B. E. Crane.[102]

Saturday, October 15th, was selected as the day to honor the memory of the deceased. At 10 A.M., that morning, in front of the Capitol on Marietta Street, under the superintendence of Captain G. W. Anderson, Marshal of the Day, and his assistants, Messrs. J. L. Johnson, T. C. Murphy, F. M. Queen, J. O. Harris, R. Badger, M. Lowe, J. Allen, T. B. Archer, J. D. Collins, G. Kries, M. E. Kenny, B. P. Randall, P. McGill, J. Milledge, Jr., O. H. Jones, and P. B. Wooten, the following order of procession was formed:

1. The Grand Masonic Lodge of Georgia and other Masonic bodies.
2. The members of the Ladies' Memorial Association.
3. The Good Templars.
4. Concordia Association.
5. Hibernian Association.
6. Officers and Students of Oglethorpe College.
7. Members of the Press.
8. Atlanta Typographical Union.
9. Judge Joseph E. Brown, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.
10. The officers and members of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia.
11. The county officers of Fulton County.
12. The Mayor and Council of Atlanta and all the City Officers.
13. The Fire Department of the City of Atlanta.
14. The citizens of Atlanta and visitors.

The procession, preceded by Marshal Anderson and several assistants, with excellent bands, giving appropriate music, moved from Marietta to Broad Street, across the bridge to Alabama, down Alabama to Whitehall, along Whitehall to Hunter, and up Hunter to the City Hall Square, arriving there about 11 o'clock.[103]

As the procession moved along the entire city presented an appearance of mourning. Business houses were closed, flags flew at half-mast, crepe hung upon the doors of banks and offices, while the street corners, doorways and windows were filled with quiet and solemn persons.[104]

Upon arrival at the City Hall, the vast assemblage was called to order by Colonel Luther J. Glenn, after which the Rev. Dr. W. T. Brantly, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, offered up an impressive prayer. After music by the band, Dr. H. V. M. Miller, duly elected, but as yet unseated U. S. Senator, introduced the orator of the day, General John B. Gordon. The latter electrified his hearers with a masterful tribute to his old comrade-in-arms. Following more band music, the exercises at the City Hall were closed with a touching benediction by the Rev. William M. Crumley, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church.[105]

A large assemblage then moved out Hunter Street to the cemetery where appropriate ceremonies were held in connection with laying the cornerstone of the Confederate monument. A Confederate flag was deposited inside, while a bottle of wine, kept since 1861, was poured over the stone. Eloquent addresses were made by Grand Master Samuel Lawrence, of the Masons, and by Colonel Thomas C. Howard.[106]

All in all, Atlanta's tribute to a great man reflected credit upon its citizens, officials and organizations.

The year of General Lee's death also brought to a close the lives of several pioneer citizens of the Atlanta area. The death of Dr. Chapman Powell, in May, 1870, has been noted. That fine old Atlanta pioneer and Methodist layman, Edwin Payne, died in August, and is buried in Oakland Cemetery. Patrick Cannon, one of the first Irishmen to settle in Atlanta, died in April, aged 73, while Dr. Daniel Hook, 76, physician and founder of the Christian Church in Atlanta, died on July 27th. He was the father of the noted Georgia jurist, James Schley Hook, and the father-in-law of Judge Clark Howell. The Rev. William Harris Evans, born in Wilkes County, Georgia, and founder of Evans Chapel in Atlanta, in 1853, died at Oxford, Georgia, on July 20th. He is buried in the old cemetery in that town, where lie so many of Georgia's other Methodist notables. Colonel Archibald A. Gaulding, prominent Mason, former member of the legislature from Pike County, state Surveyor-General, and a proprietor and editor of the Atlanta *Intelligencer,* died August 8th, in his 64th year. He is buried in the cemetery at Griffin, Georgia.[107]

Captain Simeon W. Thornton, grandfather of the late Lenox Thornton, veteran registrar of vital statistics of Atlanta, met a tragic death on May 26, 1870, when he was run over and his body severed by the switch engine "New Hampshire" in the W. & A. yards. Captain Thornton came to Atlanta from Milner, Pike County, in 1853, and soon became a devout member of the newly-founded Evans' Chapel. For many years he ran as conductor on the Macon and Western R. R. During the war he served valiantly in Cobb's Legion and later as a captain in the Georgia State Reserve Infantry. After the war he farmed for a few years in Alabama, his wife's home, but at the time of his death, at 41, was connected with the W. & A. R. R. He is buried in Oakland.[108]

Among the De Kalb pioneers who died during the year was Thomas Barnes, of Lithonia, aged 70, in May. The present McWilliams' District of De Kalb was once called Barnes' District in his honor. Decatur lost three old timers. Allen Woodall, 63, on July 7th; Jonathan B. Wilson, 68, former ordinary of De Kalb, on July 25th, and John Fannin, 76, on November 10th. All are buried in the Decatur Cemetery. Zachariah R. Jones, 66, substantial citizen of Panthersville District, and father of Oliver H. Jones, Atlanta's best known liveryman, died December 13th. He is buried in the old Macedonia Cemetery, near his long-time residence.[109]

The population of De Kalb County in 1870, totalled 10,014, approximately half that of the City of Atlanta. Of this total 2682 were colored. Decatur, the county seat claimed 401 residents. Average value of improved land in De Kalb was $9.19 per acre, while that of wild land was 70¢.[110]

The county had always been predominently rural. That it was not entirely without industry in 1870, however, is indicated by the following enumeration from the U. S. Census of that year:

EVANS' DISTRICT

Name of Corp., Co. or Individual	*Type of Business*	*Motive Power*	*Capital Invested*
G. Mehaffy	Sawmill	Steam	$ 1,500
Daniel Morgan	Sawmill	Water	1,500
J. N. Swift	Custom Gristmill	Water	3,000
J. W. Fowler	Sawmill	Water	800
Swanton & Angier	Tannery	Steam	2,500
Thomas Kelly	Tannery	Hand & Horse	2,000
E. Mason	Custom Gristmill	Water	5,000
E. Mason	Sawmill	Water	1,000
Samuel Durand	Grist & Sawmill	Water	2,000

PANTHERSVILLE DISTRICT

Mary J. Terry	Sawmill	Water	$ 1,000
McCurdy & Adams	Sawmill	Steam	2,500
J. M. Thompson	Wagonmaking, Repairing & Blacksmithing	Hand	300
J. W. Kirkpatrick	Furniture	Steam	10,000
E. P. Sanders	Sawmill	Steam	2,000
Mrs. Akers & Sons	Gristmill	Water	1,500
J. W. Beaty	Gristmill	Water	1,000
Pitts & White	Gristmill	Water	1,000
Pitts & White	Sawmill	Water	1,000
Wright & Scully	Sawmill	Water	1,000
R. B. Wilson	Gristmill	Water	800
McNaught, Ormond & Co.[111]	Two Paper Mills	Water	65,000
John P. Ray	Gristmill	Water	4,000
John P. Ray	Sawmill	Water	1,000
Crockett & Wilkins	Sawmill	Water	1,000
Robert Clarke	Gristmill	Water	10,000
Swift & Thompson	Gristmill	Water	2,000
E. J. Hulsey	Grist & Sawmill	Water	7,200

DIAMOND'S DISTRICT

Mary J. Barnes	Gristmill	Water	$ 800
Mary J. Barnes	Sawmill	Water	500
Nathaniel Patch	Sash & Blind Factory	Water	500
James L. Kilgore	Gristmill	Water	1,500
Zadok Baker	Gristmill	Water	1,500
Zadok Baker	Sawmill	Water	1,500
Jacob Chupp	Grist & Sawmill	Water	2,500
Elijah Steward	Grist & Sawmill	Water	1,800

STONE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Name of Corp., Co. or Individual	*Type of Business*	*Motive Power*	*Capital Invested*
Stone Mountain Granite Co.	Quarrying & Dressing Granite	Hand & Horse	$75,000
B. F. Veal	Gristmill	Water	3,000
F. Maddox	Sawmill	Water	1,000
Rufus Henderson	Gristmill	Water	1,500
J. Wall & Co.	Sawmill	Steam	2,000
Lively & McElroy	Sawmill	Steam	2,500
C. P. Lively	Grist & Sawmill	Water	$1,800
Flowers & Son	Gristmill	Water	3,600
W. B. Wallis	Sawmill & Cabinet Shop	Water	1,500

CROSS KEYS DISTRICT

J. B. Davidson	Pottery	Hand & Horse	$ 250

Thus it will be seen that the De Kalb County industrial picture in 1870 was dominated by the individually-owned saw and grist mill. The old water-powered mill houses were constructed pretty much according to a standard pattern. Usually they were not less than two stories high, and were raised high above the ground and the beds of the streams. Only in rare instances were they painted. The framework was of heavy timber and fitted with mortised joints. They were built to withstand the rigors of hard usage and the ravages of time. The men who built these substantial old structures were skilled specialists called "millwrights." Nearly everything was constructed by hand, including the usual overshot wheel, though the millstones, more often than not came from such firms as the LaFayette Burr Millstone Manufactory in New York City.[112]

Not always, but more often that not, especially after the war, small communities, including a blacksmith shop and a country store formed around the gristmills, ginneries and sawmills. The mill owners, for the most part, were not paid in money for services performed, but took a portion of the grain. This was called "toll," and, in the case of corn, amounted to one-eighth.[113]

As the years passed, and with the advent of more centralized manufacturing methods, the paved road and the motor truck, most of these picturesque old mills disappeared. Of thirty-six operating in De Kalb in 1870, only two remain in operation, and but one in its original building. White's Mill, on Dolittle Creek in Land Lot 118 of the 15th District, just upstream from where the East Atlanta and Panthersville Road crosses that stream, has been owned by the same family for more than a century. The old millhouse burned in October, 1942, but a smaller structure was erected to replace it, and the mill continues in operation with Howell White, as proprietor. Thompson's mill, on Snapfinger Creek, in Land Lot 96 of the 15th District, southeast of Wesley Chapel, grinds meal and saws lumber in its original building, with Paul Thompson, as operator. This venerable water-powered enterprise was originally built by J. B. Badger. After an intervening ownership by the pioneer Crockett family, it passed into the hands of the Thompson family.[114]

A number of changes, aside from those wrought by the construction of the Air-Line Railroad, took place in the Atlanta area of 1870. The neighboring counties of Douglas and Rockdale came into being. The former, named for Senator Stephen A. Douglas, was organized out of lands taken from Campbell and Carroll, by Act of the legislature approved October 17, 1870. Douglasville became the county seat.[115] Rockdale, with Conyers as the county seat, was created out of Newton and Henry counties, under an Act approved October 18, 1870.[116]

The Act under which Douglas County was created, cut off all territory formerly included in Campbell lying west of the Chattahoochee River, and authorized the removal of the county seat of Campbell from old Campbellton, on the river, to Fairburn on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad. Also the county line was moved eastward to include the remainder of the 9th and part of the 13th District of Fayette County.[117]

Old Campbellton, upon its eminence overlooking the Chattahoochee, with its brick court house, Masonic Hall, academy, and ante-bellum homes, gleaming through avenues of magnolia, myrtle or cedar, was doomed. Most of its old families drifted off to other places, including the newer railroad towns of Fairburn and Palmetto. Weeds rioted and choked neglected flower gardens. Rows of comfortable homes, once housing a population of some 1200, fell into decay. The Masonic Lodge Hall was deserted. For two decades the bleak red brick courthouse stood dark and silent, the habitation of owls, bats and ghostly memories of better days, until it was mercifully dismantled. The names upon mossy tombstones in the Methodist churchyard and the old Baptist cemetery are the only remainder of a once flourishing and beautiful town, the site of which, since 1932, has been in Fulton County.[118]

The City of Atlanta had gone far since the dismal December of 1864, when City Treasurer John H. Mecaslin's report showed a balance of $1.64 in the till. Just how far is indicated by the city's financial statement of December 1, 1870.

Statement

Of the Bonded Debt and Assets of the City of Atlanta, December 1, 1870:

Liabilities

Total Bonded Debt		$ 858,000

Assets

Real Estate—City Hall and Lot	$ 60,000	
City Property at Passenger Depot	120,000	
Magazine and Grounds[119]	6,000	
Badger Estate Purchase	10,000	
Market House	8,000	
Calaboose Lot	1,500	
Fair-grounds and Buildings	80,000	
Stable Grounds and Stock	9,000	
		294,500

Stocks—Ga. Air-Line R. R. Co.	$300,000	
Atlanta Gas Co.	46,750	
		$346,750
Annual Income		200,000
Total Assets		$ 841,250
Taxable Property		$10,000,000

The above is a correct statement of the Bonded Debt and Assets from the books in my office. The estimate on Real Estate Assets is a ready cash valuation.

Perino Brown,
City Treasurer.[120]

NOTES—CHAPTER 48

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 15, 1869, *et seq.*

[2] *Ibid.,* Dec. 1, 1869.

[3] *Ibid.,* Dec. 3, 1869.

[4] *Ibid.;* Reed, *Atlanta,* 256.

[5] Reed, *Atlanta,* 256-257.

[6] U. S. Census, 1870.

[7] Quoted in Thomas D. Clark, *Pills, Petticoats & Plows* (Indianapolis, 1944), 19.

[8] *Ibid.,* 19-24.

[9] Quoted in Avery, *History of Georgia,* 423.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] *Ibid.,* 423-424.

[13] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 262.

[14] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 11, 1870.

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 262; "Garrett's Necrology."

[17] Page 427.

[18] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 263.

[19] *Ibid.;* Avery, *History of Georgia,* 430-431.

[20] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 275; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 264.

[21] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 449; Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 60-61.

[22] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 449-451.

[23] *Ibid.,* 436-437; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 268.

[24] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 437.

[25] *Ibid.,* 444; Eugene M. Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *A.H.B.,* XV (Oct., 1938), 249-283.

[26] *Ga. Laws,* 1870, pp. 423-427.

[27] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 245.

[28] *Ibid.,* 249-250.

[29] Atlanta city directories, 1871-1891.

[30] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 254.

[31] 38 *Ga. Reports,* 199; 40 *Ga. Reports,* 52.

[32] The 3-story, 14-room Charles A. Larenden residence, east side of Peachtree between Baker and Ivy streets. See *Weekly Constitution,* Oct. 30, 1871 and the Cooper Map of Atlanta, 1868.

[33] *Ga. Laws,* 1870, pp. 502-503.

[34] Styles A. Martin, *The State Capital, A Great Asset to Atlanta* (Atlanta. 1948), 18.

[35] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 25, 1921.

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] *Ibid.*

[38] City directories, 1921-1924.

[39] Eugene M. Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *loc. cit.,* 255-256.

[40] *Ibid.,* 256.

[41] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 121.

[42] Wall Street first appears in the enumeration of streets in the *City Directory* of 1881. *Hopkins' Atlas,* 1878. Plate A, shows a street running parallel with, and just north of the railroad. From Peachtree to Pryor it is designated as Wall Street, and from Pryor to Loyd (Central Ave.), as Railroad Ave.

[43] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 121-123; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 188-189.

[44] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 3, 1870.

[45] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 189.

[46] Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *loc. cit.,* 257.

[47] Johnston, *W. & A. R. R.,* 174.

[48] Wimbish, *W. & A. Right-of-Way Case,* 178.

[49] *Atlanta Constitution,* May 12, 1871.

[50] Elinor Hillyer, "Car Shed's Elegant Days," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Jan. 29, 1928.

[51] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 25, 1870.

[52] Meta Barker, "Some High Lights of the Old Atlanta Stage," *A.H.B.,* II (Jan. 1928), 35.

[53] Present site of Ten Forsyth (formerly Austell) Building.

[54] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 11, 1870.

[55] "Garrett's Necrology."

[56] John Stainback Wilson, M.D., *Atlanta As It Is* (New York, 1871), 63. *Cf.* reprint, *A.H.B.,* XXIV (Jan.-Apr., 1941), 81.

[57] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 22, 1870; "Richard's Diary," Oct. 22, 1870.

[58] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 1, 1870.

[59] *Ibid.*

[60] David B. Freeman, "Why Whit Anderson Hung Up His Fiddle," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* 1923.

[61] *Ibid.*

[62] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 23, 1870.

[63] Alex M. Hitz, "The Origin of and Distinction between the Two Protestant Episcopal Churches Known as St. Luke's, Atlanta," *G.H.Q.* (Mar., 1950), 4.

[64] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1871, p. 51; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 562.

[65] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 562.

[66] Hitz, "St. Luke's Church," *loc. cit.,* 5.

[67] *Ibid.,* 6; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 562; *Hopkin's Atlas,* Plate D.

[68] Hitz, "St. Luke's Church," *loc. cit.,* 6.

[69] *Ibid.;* Martin, Atlanta, II, 563; city directories, 1906-1907.

[70] Hitz, "St. Luke's Church," *loc. cit.,* 7.

[71] Dr. Thomas M. Elliott, "Steady Growth Marks 82 Years of First Methodist Church," *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 3, 1929.

[72] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 2, 1870.

[73] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 18, 1870; *City Directory,* 1871, p. 50; *Ibid.,* 1872, p. 136; *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate N.

[74] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 5, 1932.

[75] "Garrett's Necrology."

[76] Allen P. Tankersley, *College Life at Old Oglethorpe* (Athens, Ga., 1951), 83. Hereafter cited as Tankersley, *Oglethorpe.* Reed, *Atlanta,* 330.

[77] Tankersley, *Oglethorpe,* 114-127.

[78] *Ibid.,* 122.

[79] Reed, *Atlanta,* 331.

[80] *Ibid.,* 332.

[81] Tankersley, *Oglethorpe,* 128; "Garrett's Necrology."

[82] *Ibid.,* 132-133; "Garrett's Necrology."

[83] Tankersley, *Oglethorpe,* 133-135.

[84] *Ibid.,* 135-136.

[85] *Ibid.,* 137.

[86] *Ibid.,* 138.

[87] *Ibid.,* 143.

[88] *Ibid.,* 143-144.

[89] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," 42.

[90] *Ibid.*

[91] *Ibid.,* 43-44.

[92] Originals in collection of Franklin M. Garrett. Cf. *Atlanta Intelligencer,* Feb. 27, 1870. With the exception of the years 1873, 1917 and 1946, publication of an Atlanta city directory has been an annual event since 1870.

[93] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 2, 1870.

[94] *Ga. Laws,* 1870, p. 212.

[95] The cotton warehouse of C. H. Strong was at Broad and Hunter streets.

[96] Reed, *Atlanta,* part II, 140-141; city directories, various dates; "Garrett's Necrology;" Sarah Huff, "My 80 Years in Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 30, 1936.

[97] *Ga. Laws,* 1870, p. 241.

[98] Former postmaster of Atlanta.

[99] Henry Jackson, comp., *The Code of the City of Atlanta* (Atlanta, 1870), 109-110.

[100] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 27, 1870.

[101] "Miss Hanna's Reminiscences," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Aug. 10, 1930.

[102] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 13, 1870.

[103] *Ibid.,* Oct. 18, 1870.

[104] *Ibid.*

[105] *Ibid.*

[106] *Ibid.*

[107] "Garrett's Necrology."

[108] *Ibid.; Pioneer Citizens' History,* 284-286.

[109] "Garrett's Necrology."

[110] U. S. Census, 1870.

[111] These were the well known Sugar Creek Paper Mills, located on that stream in what is now the Mills District of De Kalb, a short distance east of Moreland Ave., SE. In 1870, the firm employed 35 male and 12 female employees, and produced one and one-half tons of rag paper per day. Some of the Atlanta newspapers of the 1870's were printed on paper produced by these mills, of which William McNaught and James Ormond, well known Atlanta business men were proprietors.

[112] Carl T. Hudgins, "Mills and Other Early De Kalb County Industries." A mimeographed paper read to the members of the De Kalb Historical Society at its November, 1951 meeting. Copies on file De Kalb and Atlanta Historical Societies.

[113] *Ibid.*

[114] *Ibid.*

[115] *Ga. Laws,* 1870, p. 13.

[116] *Ibid.,* 16.

[117] *Ibid.,* 15.

[118] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 727; Winifred Lee Moore, "Memories of Old Campbellton," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* June 21, 1931.

[119] Referring to the City Powder Magazine on the present site of the Davis Street School. The present Magnolia Street, which led to the site, was formerly called Magazine Street.

[120] Jackson, *Code of Atlanta, 1870,* p. 123.

CHAPTER 49

1871

THE municipal election, held on December 7, 1870, for mayor and council to serve during 1871 was by no means a quiet affair. Numerous brickbats, both literal and figurative were hurled, not to mention the discharge of deadlier weapons which produced a few casualties among the colored population.

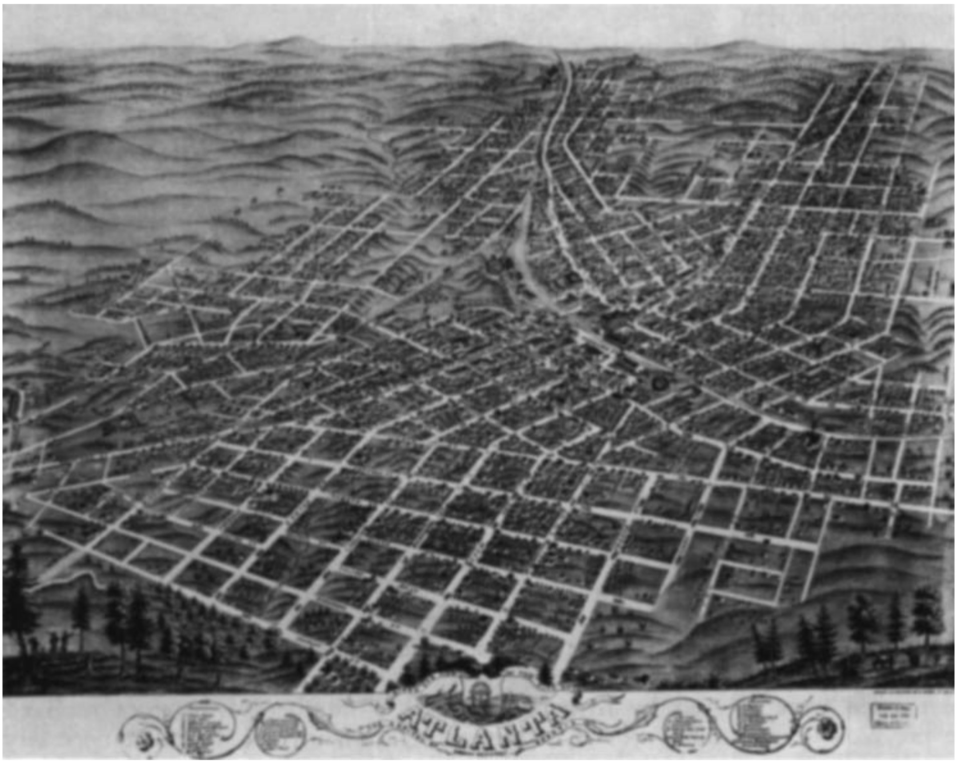
Contestants for the mayor's chair were Dr. James F. Alexander, heading the Democratic ticket, and Judge Dennis F. Hammond, former superior court judge of the Tallapoosa circuit, spearheading the so-called Radical ticket. The race was close. Hammond carried the second, third and fourth wards, while Alexander prevailed in the first and fifth. It was a Hammond victory by 148 votes.[1]

The Council elected to serve with Judge Hammond was composed of six Democrats, Charles W. Wells, Cornelius P. Cassin, Robert J. Lowry, Nicholas A. McLendon, Frank P. Rice, and Alfred L. Fowler; two white Radicals, Samuel W. Grubb, business manager of the *New Era,* and Daniel D. Snyder, United States gauger for Atlanta; and two Negro Radicals, William Finch, a tailor, and George Graham, a carpenter. Finch represented the fourth ward and Graham, the third, both of which, constituting the northeast and southeast sections of the city respectively, had large Negro populations. It was the first time in the city's history that Negroes had sat in council, and, up to now, the last. Politically, however, anything could have happened, during the Reconstruction regime.[2]

Trouble spot of the election insofar as disorder was concerned, was the engine house of Tallulah Fire Company No. 3, on Broad Street between Marietta and Walton, polling place for the fifth ward. Shortly after noon a man was arrested, presumably for fraudulent voting, and the crowd, largely colored, undertook to set him free. A general row followed, in which several policemen were injured by flying rocks, and a number of Negroes received severe blows from clubs. Police Lieutenant Queen, in fact, found it necessary to use up a good sized hickory stick. Later in the afternoon a crowd of colored men betook themselves to the Calaboose, back of the present Ten Pryor Street Building site, for the purpose of freeing one of their number who had been properly arrested for illegal voting. General L. J. Gartrell, who was present, endeavored to quiet the crowd, but to no avail. Again rocks flew through the air. Then pisols were drawn, and some thirty or forty shots were fired, resulting in a general stampede of the colored brethren. The prisoner remained in durance vile, but unfortunately an inoffensive Negro named Tom was killed and several others were wounded. It was a hard day for the police.[3]

Ministerial officers elected by the Council of 1871, were S. B. Love, clerk; Perino Brown, treasurer; Thomas H. Williams, marshal; John L. Johnson, deputy marshal; Patrick Fitzgibbon, hall-keeper; John Connolly, sexton; W. T. Newman, city attorney; George Stewart, overseer of streets; D. M. Queen, first lieutenant of police; J. Sid Holland, second lieutenant of police; John A. Grant, city engineer; J. L. Porter, keeper of magazine, and I. G. Mitchell, L. C. Wells and J. N. Langston, city assessors. The Board of Health was composed of Dr. D. C. O'Keefe, Chairman, and Drs. T. S. Powell, J. P. Logan, H. L. Wilson and J. W. Craig.[4]

During February, 1871, some new faces appeared officially in both the Fulton and De Kalb courthouses. In Fulton, A. G. Grier became receiver of tax returns; Samuel R. Hoyle, tax collector, and W. A. Hardin, surveyor. All other officers held over. In De Kalb, Walter R. Webster became ordinary; James Hunter, sheriff; I. N. Nash, receiver, tax returns; E. M. Kittridge, surveyor; William Dickerson, coroner, and, in May, John N. Pate, treasurer in lieu of William Nash, who failed to qualify. Other officers were reelected.[5]



(From a copy, collection of Franklin M. Garrett)
Drawn and published by A. Ruger, St. Louis, Mo.

Bird's-eye view of the City of Atlanta, the Capital of Georgia, 1871. Looking northeast.

It was in 1871 also, that the town limits of Decatur were extended to one-half mile in every direction from the De Kalb court house,[6] and the new town of Doraville, on the Air-Line Railroad, was incorporated. The original Town Council of Doraville was composed of G. N. Flowers, L. T. Jackson, Samuel Harman, Samuel H. Braswell and William N. Leitch. Corporate limits were fixed at one half mile in every direction from the depot of the Atlanta & Richmond Air-Line Railroad.[7] On June 12, 1871, Doraville was made a United States Postoffice, with Town Commissioner George N. Flowers as Postmaster. The office remained under the jurisdiction of Dr. Flowers and his son John E., until very recent years.[8]

For the first time since Atlanta was originally divided into five wards in January, 1854, the number thereof was increased in 1871. By ordinance, in October a sixth ward was created by dividing the first ward into two parts with West Hunter Street as the line of demarkation. Territory north of Hunter was designated as the sixth ward, while that to the south remained the first. The new ward was entitled to two councilmen.[9]

On December 2nd, a seventh ward was created out of the fourth and fifth, the boundaries being defined as follows: "Commencing at the junction of Houston and Pryor streets, thence through lot nineteen, between blocks three, one and two, five and six, to the city limits; thence northerly along the city limits to Peachtree Street; thence south along Peachtree Street and Pryor Street to the beginning." It was further ordained, at the same time, "that the fourth ward be extended from Ivy Street west to Pryor, and from Houston Street south to the railroad, and that Pryor Street shall be the line between the fourth and fifth wards, and Pryor and Peachtree streets between the fifth and seventh wards." The seventh, like the sixth, was entitled to two councilmen.[10]

Eighteen seventy-two saw the local system of courts expanded so as to include a city court and a recorder's court. The City Court of Atlanta was created by an Act of the Legislature approved December 15th. Jurisdiction was vested in the new court of all civil causes (except equity causes) causes of divorce, and causes involving title to real estate. It was limited in damages to three thousand dollars, and to criminal jurisdiction of all minor offenses committed within the corporate limits of Atlanta which do not subject the offenders to confinement in the penitentiary or to death.[11]

The first judge of the City Court was Robert J. Cowart (1811-1876), who served from 1872 until his death. He had practiced law in Atlanta since 1860, and now lies buried in the city cemetery at Canton, Georgia. Judge Cowart's successors, for the next two decades were: Richard H. Clark, 1876-1884; Rufus T. Dorsey, 1884; Marshall J. Clarke, 1884-1885, and Howard Van Epps, 1885-1896.[12]

By Act approved December 12, 1871, the Legislature authorized the Mayor and Council of Atlanta, at their discretion, to elect a recorder and an auditor, or to combine the two jobs in one office. The jurisdiction of the recorder was the same as that of the Mayor's Court, which it succeeded, thereby relieving the chief executive of the burden of trying minor offenders against city ordinances. The auditor was charged with the responsibility of auditing all accounts against the city and certifying to their correctness.[13]

The offices of recorder and auditor were combined, and the first incumbent, elected by the Mayor and Council, in January, 1872, was a young lawyer from East Tennessee, William T. Newman. He was not quite 29, having been born near Knoxville, June 23, 1843. At the outbreak of the war in 1861, he enlisted in the Lookout Rangers as a private. He soon became a lieutenant in the Second Tennessee Cavalry, and was wounded and captured near Somerset, Kentucky, in March, 1863. After his release he joined his old regiment and served valiantly until his right arm was shot off at the Battle of Jonesboro [Ga.], August 30, 1864. Young Newman returned to East Tennessee after the war, but was soon attracted to Atlanta. Here he entered the law office of John L. Hopkins, also an East Tennessean, and, in 1866, was admitted to the bar. He served as city attorney of Atlanta from 1871 to 1883, after which he resumed private practice in partnership with the late Judge William D. Ellis. In 1886 he was named by President Cleveland, U. S. Judge for the Northern District of Georgia, which office he filled with distinction until his death on February 14, 1920. He rests from his labors in West View Cemetery.[14]

One of the most noted business locations in Atlanta for two generations was the southwest corner of Whitehall and Mitchell streets. From the late 1840's to 1866 it was occupied by the wholesale and retail grocery and wagon yard of William W. Roark, and was known by the people of Atlanta and by the rural population for miles around as "Roark's Corner." Roark died in 1866, and in September, 1871, the property was purchased by William H. Brotherton for $18,200 cash.[15] It soon became even more famous as Brotherton's corner.

The purchaser, one of Atlanta's most unique merchants and influential politicians, was another gift of East Tennessee to the city. He was born near Benton, Polk County, in 1839. When William was nine the family moved to Dalton, Georgia, where he was educated and received his first business experience. When 19 he entered business for himself at Tilton, near Dalton on the W. & A. R. R. During the war he became a second lieutenant, and later captain, in the Confederate army. After service at the seige of Vicksburg, he was assigned to post duty successively at Atlanta, Albany and West Point, Georgia. Like so many other ex-soldiers whose duties had carried them to Atlanta, he formed a favorable impression of the town, and settled here in 1865, entering the dry goods business at the location he subsequently purchased.

As Brotherton's store grew and became a noted retail establishment, so grew the Captain's reputation as an astute politician. He served in council several times, but it was in connection with the affairs of the board of police commissioners that his genius shown most brilliantly. He was a member of that board for 17 years, and headed the famous Brotherton faction, as opposed to the English faction, headed by Captain James W. English. Captain Brotherton directed both his store and his political activities from an enormous leather chair, quite in keeping with his avoirdupois, and placed in the center of his store. At this vantage point he could be found, Mondays through Saturdays, from 6 A.M. until dark. Captain Brotherton died February 27, 1908, survived by his wife, nee Paralee Williams, of Dalton, and nine children, three daughters, Mrs. Frank Small and Mrs. George I. Walker, of Atlanta, and Mrs. John M. Berry, of Rome and six sons, William M., Frank M., Charles H., Robert L., better known as "Hun," Edwin, and Harold P. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[16]

On Sunday evening, July 23, 1871, about six o'clock, the Atlanta area was visited by the most severe rain, hail and wind storm since September, 1827, long before there was any Atlanta. The wind came first, and with terrific violence shrouded the city with dust, tore off signs and window blinds, destroyed awnings and unroofed and demolished houses. A large plank awning in front of Silvey & Dougherty's store, on Decatur Street, was blown across Peachtree Street and wrecked the front of the Turf Exchange Saloon. The center column of the new passenger depot was blown entirely off the granite base, and the zinc arch above was wrenched and cracked. Several houses were turned over or unroofed, and while some persons were painfully injured there were no fatalities. From Judge Bryce's, one mile below Decatur, to Atlanta, cotton, corn and melons suffered heavily from the hail. The neighborhood of East Point, however, bore the brunt of the hail storm. In some places the frozen pellets covered the ground to a depth of six inches.[17]

Nothing, not even the convulsions of nature, could keep S. P. Richards from his diary. On the day of the storm he wrote:

"A terrible hail storm came over us this afternoon and threatened to blow the roof off but did not succeed. It did succeed however, in blowing completely over, a small cottage up our street nearly killing a man [Samuel Ogletree] and his wife and child. In some places hail lay on the ground three inches deep. Our church windows were open and the rain and hail beat in and wetted the carpets over ¼ of the house."

Atlanta, child of railroads, had almost from the beginning, adequate facilities by which its citizens could reach distant points. For the first few years of its existence as a town, local transportation presented no particular problem, for nearly everything and everybody was in easy walking distance. As the city expanded rapidly in all directions during the two decades beginning in 1850, however, the problem of getting around became more and more acute, and, by 1871 a system of local transportation had become a prime necessity. The city covered a radius of three miles. Its streets were unpaved and sidewalks were few. Businessmen tramped to and from their places of business through mud or dust, according to the weather. It was almost impossible for the women to walk to church or to social functions without getting their long skirts bedraggled and bespattered. Carriages frequently bogged down on the principal business and residential streets. In fact a year later, in 1872, the *Columbus Sun* referred to Atlanta as the "Mud City."[18]

As noted previously, an attempt had been made in 1866 to establish a street railway system, but the many burdensome restrictions in the franchise discouraged the promotors and nothing came of it. The matter came before Council again in January, 1869, at which time that body adopted a resolution repealing the more objectionable features of the previous franchise. The resolution provided that the road and its rolling stock should be exempt from taxation for a period of years; prescribed the fares to be charged, which should not exceed 20 cents for any through line and not exceeding 10 cents for half lines or short distances, and giving the company authority to construct railways on any street in the city and across the Broad Street bridge. One requirement placed in the franchise, and which has continued to the present was that the company should pay for paving between tracks and for three feet on each side. The theory was that the pounding of the hoofs of the horses and mules would wear out the pavement at frequent intervals.[19]

Still nothing happened. Then, on April 25, 1871, two of Atlanta's leading citizens, Richard Peters and George W. Adair took a hand. They purchased the charter and franchise of the old company, and organized the Atlanta Street Railway Company, with Peters as president, George W. Adair, Benjamin E. Crane, L. Schofield, Benjamin H. Broomhead, John H. James, directors, and William P. Orme, secretary and treasurer.[20]

The first line projected, two miles in length, was known as the West End line, and it was probably not accidental that it ran by the home of Mr. Peters, at Mitchell and Forsyth streets, and terminated near the residence of Mr. Adair in front of McPherson Barracks, then generally known as the "Yankee Barracks." The cast iron rails began on Whitehall Street at the railroad crossing and extended out Whitehall to Mitchell, thence along Mitchell to Forsyth, out Forsyth to Peters, and along Peters Street to the Barracks. The line was not completed until November,[21] but partial service began on September 7th. The *Constitution* commented on the 8th:

"The street cars commenced running yesterday, to a point near the Barracks—about one and a quarter miles. Today, they will enter upon the campaign in earnest. 'Jump on board the cars and *all* take a ride'."

Again, on the 9th:

"The street cars were opened free to the public yesterday, and were freely patronized, especially by the boys, who seemed never to tire. The cars run smoothly and well. Colonel L. P. Thomas makes an energetic conductor. We learn that the cars will be run from 7 o'clock, A.M., until 10 o'clock, P.M. When will a free ride be given to the ladies exclusively?"

So, in a modest way, came Atlanta's fourth public utility, preceded in the order named by steam railway, telegraph and gas service. Before 1871 ended other street railway lines were projected and construction started. They will be described in the next chapter.

Shortly after the State leased the W. & A. R. R., to the Western & Atlantic Railroad Company, the latter had a complete inventory made of all buildings, equipment, rolling stock, etc. It is too voluminous to reproduce here, but the list of locomotives, including number and name, as it stood at the beginning of 1871, it herewith given as an interesting piece of period railroadiana:[22]

No. 14. Chattahoochee
No. 19. Coosawattee
No. 24. New Hampshire
No. 27. Louisiana
No. 35. Gazelle
No. 36. Governor
No. 37. President
No. 39. General
No. 40. Joe Brown
No. 41. Senator
No. 42. Chieftan
No. 43. J. W. Lewis
No. 45. Enterprize
No. 46. Commerce
No. 48. Kentucky
No. 49. Texas
No. 50. Dispatch
No. 52. Chickasaw
No. 53. Excel
No. 54. Schuyler Colfax.
No. 55. Swiftsure
No. 57. Kingston
No. 58. Stonewall
No. 59. Atlanta
No. 60. U. S. Grant
No. 61. Campbell Wallace
No. 62. Marietta
No. 63. Cartersville
No. 64. Dalton
No. 65. Resaca
No. 66. Calhoun
No. 67. Ivanhoe
No. 68. Jennie Dean
No. 69. Courier
No. 70. Hercules
No. 71. Vulcan
No. 72. Sampson
No. 73. Kennesaw
No. 75. Gen'l A. H. Terry
No. 76. Benjamin Conley
No. 77. John H. Flynn
No. 78. Jessie
No. 79. McWhorter
No. 83. Hulbert

Total valuation of this stable of motive power was put down as $166,600, much less than the cost of one modern locomotive. The first six engines on the list, plus the Joe Brown, Senator, J. W. Lewis, Chickasaw, Excel and Stonewall, were all marked "condemned."[23] Only two, the General and the Texas are yet in existence. Both are museum pieces, the former in the Union Station at Chattanooga, and the latter in the Cyclorama, in Atlanta.

Before George Westinghouse invented the air-brake, in 1869, stopping a train, especially on a down grade, was hazardous and uncertain. With only a hand brake on the locomotive, the engineer had little control of his train, and in an emergency, could only blow for brakes and hope that the brakemen could set the hand brakes on the individual cars in time to avert an accident. The air-brake was the answer to this problem, and the fact that the W. & A. was not slow to adopt the innovation is made manifest by the following extract from President Brown's report of January 1, 1872.[24]

"During the present year, I have had the Westinghouse Air-Brake placed upon our engines and cars, and find it operates very satisfactory. It places the train under the control of the engineer, without being in any degree dependent upon brakemen, and enables him to check his speed on the approach of danger, and to stop the train almost instantly. Since the application of the Air-Brake, I find that our monthly bills for stock killed have been diminished almost one half, and I have been able to dispense with one train hand on each train, using now but one, as a servant to provide fires, water, etc. This is a savings of the wages of a hand and his board, amounting to about forty dollars per month on each train. I believe ours is the first road in the State, if not in the South, that has adopted the Air-Brake, and I am much pleased with its success."

The roster of Atlanta's volunteer fire department was completed in 1871 by the organization of two new companies, the first since 1859, which raised the total number to six. First was R. E. Lee Company No. 4, on April 3rd. It was equipped with a hand engine and was headquartered on Fair Street between Peters and Walker, the locality then being known as Castleberry Hill. First officers were Samuel D. Haslett, deputy marshal of Atlanta, president, and James A. Anderson, lawyer, secretary. Gate City Company No. 5, also hand engine, was organized on October 2nd, with A. A. Manning, president, and J. W. Jackson, secretary. Its engine house was located at Marietta and Foundry streets.[25]

It was also during 1871, that the volunteer fire department sustained its first casualty in action. About 8 P.M., on March 23rd, the residence of T. B. Archer, over his stables on Broad Street, caught fire. The blaze was supposedly extinguished, but around midnight flared up again. Dan Lynch, a young bachelor of 30 and foreman of Tallulah Company No. 3, had exerted himself strenuously at the first fire. However he answered the second alarm and seized the tongue of the engine. As he reached the corner of Broad and Hunter he was heard to exclaim, "I can run no more." He thereupon fell to the street, and before his companions, who were in the act of turning the corner could avoid him, the heavy engine ran over his abdomen. Death resulted within 15 minutes. The department lost a sterling associate, and the city one of its best native-born Irishmen. Lynch is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[26]

In the spring of 1871, it occurred to William R. Hanleiter, publisher of the current city directory, that Atlanta was old enough to start preserving its history. His idea took form in the organization of the Atlanta Pioneer and Historic Society. On the evening of April 24, 1871, there assembled, in the parlors of the H. I. Kimball House, the following gentlemen: William Ezzard, Jonathan Norcross, Julius A. Hayden, Henry C. Holcombe, David Mayer, John H. Flynn, John Glen, Thomas Kile, Michael J. Ivy, John Silvey, Logan

E. Bleckley, John J. Thrasher, Dr. W. C. Moore, Eli T. Hunnicutt, Wellborn M. Bray, D. N. Poore and William R. Hanleiter. All met with a view to lending their aid in perpetuating incidents connected with the early history of the city. Several of them, in fact, had been in the Atlanta area before there was any Atlanta.[27]

Fortunately for the present-day historian, the gist of the evening's conversation was phonetically recorded and preserved by Mr. Hanleiter in his directory for 1871.[28] Before the meeting adjourned, the Atlanta Pioneer and Historic Society was formed, with William Ezzard, President, Jonathan Norcross, Vice-President, and Mr. Hanleiter, Secretary.[29] Unfortunately the Society, insofar as the records show, never met again. It was to be 30 years before a similar organization was formed in the city.

Reference has previously been made to the Atlanta Board of Trade, organized in 1866. In early 1871, the businessmen of the city determined upon a reorganization of the Board of Trade on a basis more in harmony with the rapid growth of Atlanta as a commercial center. Accordingly a call was made through the daily papers, for a meeting of citizens to be held on February 13th, upon which occasion it was resolved:

"We, the undersigned, merchants, millers, and business men of Atlanta. believing it a subject of vital importance to the commercial prosperity of our city, to enter at once upon the organization of a Chamber of Commerce, or Board of Trade, and in view of the increase of mercantile and business facilities of the city, solicit and invite all business men having the welfare of Atlanta at heart to unite with us in a meeting looking to the organization of such a board on next Saturady evening, the 20th inst., at 8½ o'clock, in Skating Rink Hall."[30]

This invitation was extended to all resident merchants, bankers, manufacturers and other businessmen generally, desirous of enlarging and extending the commercial influence and growth of the city. It was signed by Alfred Austell, John H. James, Chapman, Rucker & Co., Garrett & Bro., Phillips & Crew, Stephens & Flynn, J. H. Ketner, Moore, Marsh & Co., Pemberton,[31] Taylor & Co., M. C. & J. F. Kiser, A. Leyden, W. M. & R. J. Lowry, P. & G. T. Dodd & Co., McNaught, Ormond & Co., Meador & Bro., A. C. & B. F. Wyly, Williams, Langston & Crane, W. R. Phillips, and some fifty others.[32]

A potent argument in favor of the organization was advanced by M. E. Cooper, soon to become first secretary of the Chamber. He said that Atlanta was daily beset with trouble with the railroads. Delays in settling charges, etc., were of frequent occurrence. If a man went to the company's office he was frequently treated with indifference, but a representative of a board of trade would be treated with respect. The inequalities between wholesale and retail trade might be regulated by a board of trade, and a score of other things might properly engage its attention.[33]

After several subsequent meetings, the organization of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce was effected on August 7, 1871. First officers were Benjamin E. Crane, president, who held the office continuously until his death in 1885; William J. Garrett, John H. James, Austin Leyden, William A. Moore, J. J. Meador and Columbus A. Pitts, vice-presidents; M. E. Cooper, secretary, and W. H. Fuller, treasurer. Standing committees were appointed on internal improvements, transportation, manufacturers, taxes and finance, insurance, Atlanta Industrial Association, legislation, real estate, market reports and statistics. The objects of the body, as declared in the constitution, were to collect and record statistical information relating to the manufacturers, commerce and finances of Atlanta, and to develop and foster her interests.[34] Headquarters were established at 44 East Alabama Street, where they remained until the Chamber occupied its own building on the northeast corner of Pryor and Hunter streets on January 16, 1885.[35]

The Chamber of Commerce, a potent factor in the business life of the city to the present,' was organized just in time to participate actively and usefully in the great commercial revival and growth of the 1870's.

Dr. John Stainback Wilson, in his *Atlanta As It Is,* published in 1871, presents the following statistics bearing upon the Atlanta business cummunity of that year:[36]

"Licensed liquor saloons, 50; butchers, 28; hacks and draws, 150; insurance agents, 17; wagon-yards, 8; printing offices, 9; merchants (not including drinking saloons), 391; lawyers and law firms, 46; physicians, 76; contractors, 15; barbers, 15; milliners, 6; photographers, 6; livery-stables, 4; mills, 7; foundries, not connected with railroads, 5; blacksmiths, 11; bakeries, 5; breweries, 2; billiard tables, 20; marble-yards, 2; theaters, 3; hotels, 5; warehouses, 3; banks, 8; dentists, 10; 1 skating rink, and 1 bowling saloon.

"From other sources the following numbers, which cannot be far wrong, are gathered:

"Real estate agents, 6; book-binderies, 3; book-stores, 4; boot and shoe stores, exclusively, 5; carriage-makers, 4; crockery stores, 4; tobacconists (wholesale), 5; cigar-makers, 4; clothing stores (wholesale), 4; coal-yards, 2; dress-makers, 7; drug stores, 8; furniture stores, 6; hardware stores, 4; gunsmith, 1; hat stores, 3; house-furnishing stores, 8; boot and shoe makers, about 20; broom factories, 2; jewellers and watchmakers, about 10; lumber yards, 11; tobacco factories, 3. Besides these we have a candy, soap, cracker, and hoop-skirt manufactory, a furniture and ice manufactory, etc."

Dr. Wilson summed up the society of Atlanta, and the characteristics of its people in the following language:[37]

"In a new place like this, to which people from all quarters have been attracted soon after a great revolution which well-nigh overturned the social, moral, and political institutions of the whole country, the society is, of course, composed of heterogeneous elements. But, notwithstanding the denunciation that has been heaped on Atlanta, as a sink of moral pollution and a seething hot-bed of political corruption, it may be safely stated that the moral and social condition of this city will compare favorably with most other cities, old or new, North or South. As to political corruption, it is to be found in every political centre; and as to the emanations of a partisan press, they themselves afford the strongest evidence of moral obliquity, in the reckless anathemas hurled against men and places, for the accomplishment of selfish and party purposes. While Atlanta, like all other large cities, has her share of adventurers and her quota of vice, the general tone of society and morals is, if I mistake not, above the average of some other cities which loudly boast of their moral and social condition.

"But let facts speak for themselves. Here we have a large number of the best, most refined, and intellectual, as well as the most progressive and enterprising men and women to be found in the North or in the South. Here are congregated a large number of learned judges, able professional men, distinguished educators, well-informed and high-toned merchants, and businessmen of all kinds, from all sections of the country. These have a controlling and beneficent influence over society in elevating and giving it tone.

"And though there are many men of wealth here, there are but few men or women of elegant leisure, with nothing to do except pass away time in fashionable follies and fripperies. Our people are emphatically a business people, who come here to *work;* and therefore the devil does not find many workshops here in the form of idle brains. Hence there is less extravagance and dissipation than in many other places of greater pretentions.

"The fact is, so intense are the business pursuits of most men here that they cannot find time to loaf on the corners, get drunk in the daytime, and indulge in other disreputable acts. As to our women (bless them) they, as a general rule, find ample occupation in the domestic duties they have so gracefully assumed, and in works of charity and benevolence, leaving them but little time for fashionable calls, balls, parties, theatres, etc. The consequence of all this is that even social intercourse and neighborly visiting are not as much in vogue among our women as might be desired; while such a thing as social visiting between our men is almost unknown; at least among our American citizens. Social intercourse and visiting between the sexes is doubtless less restricted, as our marriage lists would seem to indicate. Social intercourse among all classes, and between both sexes, is, I think, much more free among our German fellow-citizens than among our native population.

"Without entering into details, it may be safely said that our criminal records speak well for the morals of Atlanta, the frequent riots which disgrace some other cities being unknown here; while murders and other deeds of lawlessness are far less common than in many villages and even some country places. It may be observed that most of our cases of crime are among the colored population, for reasons easily explained. One distinguishing social feature of this city, and one to which its prosperity is largely due, is the liberal catholic spirit which pervades the community. Here industrious and enterprising men, who will attend to their own business and co-operate with our citizens in building up the city, are welcomed from every section of the country, regardless of place of birth or political sentiments. True, our citizens have no great love for mere political adventurers of the 'carpet bag' class; but even these are tolerated without resort to violence; while ostracism for mere political opinions is discountenanced by the common consent of our people.

"Not only is the spirit of persecution and exclusion discouraged, but a hearty invitation is extended to all who desire to avail themselves of the advantages of our favored city and who are disposed to aid in advancing its interests.

"Yet, while this policy has been so influential in building up Atlanta, it has been the occasion of unmeasured denunciation on the part of envious rivals and ultra partisans. But the incontrovertible logic of *results* is rapidly demonstrating which is the better policy—narrow sectionalism and intolerance, or broad nationality and free toleration.

"Certain it is, if all places in the South had followed the example of the people of Atlanta, there would have been no pretext for a "Ku Klux Bill."

Dr. Wilson, in this little essay, pointed to a keystone in Atlanta's development—a cosmopolitan outlook, and a willingness to accept industrious newcomers, from whatever location they may have come.

While 1871 witnessed the arrival of many new citizens, so also did it witness the departure, by death, of a number of old ones.

Augustin L. Grant, age 57, native of Wilkes County, former state agent for the disinterment of Confederate battlefield dead, and first librarian of the Young Men's Library Association, died February 12th. Ambrose B. Forsyth, cotton buyer, born in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, a resident since 1843, and for whom Forsyth Street is named, died February 21st, aged 53. Patrick Lynch, Sr.,, 52, died March 16th. He was one of the five Lynch brothers, natives of County Meath, Ireland, who settled in Atlanta in 1848, and was the owner of the famous Lynch Rock Quarry, at the west end of what is now Rock Street, Northwest. Samuel Grubb, 75, born in Alexandria, Virginia, a resident since 1857, former business and financial manager of the old National American newspaper, and for some years Fulton County tax receiver, died May 30th. One of Atlanta's most unique characters, William B. Chapman, died at 75 on June 26th. He was familiarly known as "Dad" Chapman, and came to Atlanta in 1846 from Macon. Though generally known as a gambler, he was withal, a good citizen—a charter member of the Central Lodge of Odd Fellows and of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1. That he was a popular citizen was indicated by the long procession that followed his body to the grave. His only survivor was a widowed daughter. All of these pioneer citizens are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[38]

De Kalb County, too, lost some old residents in '71. Dr. Peter F. Hoyle, 58, well known Decatur physician of the early days, died January 6th in Jacksonville, Florida, where he had resided for a short time. Dr. John W. Jones, born in Rockville, Maryland, April 14, 1806, died at his home in Decatur, April 27, 1871. He had served in the Georgia Legislature from Monroe County in 1837, and as a Whig from Georgia in the Thirtieth Congress, 1847-1849. Dr. Jones was an original member of the faculty of the Atlanta Medical College, and is buried in Oakland Cemetery. William Nash, 68, and Daniel N. Pittman, 78, died June 22nd and August 18th, respectively. Both are buried in the Stone Mountain Cemetery. The latter was the father of Fulton County Ordinary, Daniel Pittman. Col. Thomas Akins, one of the original merchants of Decatur, died June 23rd, age 80. He is buried under a neatly inscribed tablet in the old Decatur Cemetery.[39]

John H. Steele, editor of the Atlanta *Intelligencer* from 1860 until his death on January 11, 1871, was for the little more than a decade he lived here, one of Atlanta's best citizens. He was born in Charleston, South Carolina, January 6, 1807. During the decade of the 1830's he taught school near Eatonton, and represented Putnam County for a term in the Legislature. Later he was appointed secretary to Governor George W. Crawford, and continued to serve the governor in the same capacity after he became secretary of war in the Taylor cabinet. When Crawford resigned, following Taylor's death, Steele returned to Georgia and made a connection with the Georgia *Press* at Griffin. After a year's service as a secretary to Governor Joseph E. Brown, Major Steele moved to Atlanta, where he lived the remainder of his life.[40]

As a writer Steele was clear and forcible, defending those principles in the defense of which he assiduously labored, with a masterly hand but seldom equalled. While he was positive and unflinching in the defense of truth against those who entertained different opinions, he was ever respectful, kind and unostentatious; in a word, Mr. Steele was the embodiment of all that was characteristic of the gentleman and of acknowledged abilities throughout his useful life.[41]

Mrs. Steele, nee Mary Ann Edwards, survived her husband for more than twenty years, joining him in quiet Oakland Cemetery in March, 1891.[42]

The newspaper to which John H. Steele gave his last decade ceased to exist shortly after its late editor's death. The *Intelligencer,* since the war had steadily lost ground. Its demise was expedited after the *Constitution* appeared in the summer of 1868 as an all-out Democratic standard bearer. The older paper was not always on the popular side during the days of Radical Reconstruction and rapidly lost both readers and advertisers. Its proprietor, Judge Jared I. Whitaker, finally gave up the ghost in April, and Atlanta's oldest daily from thenceforth belonged to history. During June, 1871, most of the mechanical equipment was sold to the *Constitution.* The old files of the paper were bought by Judge Whitaker for $300.[43]

All through 1871 the Georgia political pot was boiling, with its center at the State House in Atlanta. Governor Bullock had experienced a difficult time remaining in power even with the support of Federal troops. Now, that the Act of July 15, 1870, had removed the troops and readmitted Georgia to the Union, the Governor's position was rapidly becoming untenable. The election of members to the State Legislature, in December, 1870, resulted in a large Democratic majority for both houses.[44]

Newly elected members of the State Senate from the Thirty-fourth District, including De Kalb, and the Thirty-fifth, including Fulton, were Milton A. Candler and George Hillyer respectively. Representatives, elected at the same time, were Washington L. Goldsmith, from De Kalb, and Edward F. Hoge, John S. Wilson and Henry Jackson from Fulton.[45] The latter soon resigned to accept the position of supreme court reporter, an office he held for nearly 10 years.[46]

In February, 1871, Georgia's legally elected, but unseated senators since 1868, Dr. H. V. M. Miller and Joshua Hill, took their seats, the first to occupy those places since the withdrawal of Robert Toombs and Alfred Iverson in 1861. Thus it took Georgia six years after the war ended, from May, 1865, to February, 1871, to establish normal relations with the Federal government.[47]

The legal date for the meeting of the new legislature was November 1, 1871. With both houses now under Democratic control, Governor Bullock foresaw clearly that impeachment awaited him. He determined to avoid that unpleasant occasion by abdicating the throne and leaving the state. Accordingly, on October 23rd, he filed his resignation with David G. Cotting, Secretary of State. It was kept secret until October 30th, the day it was to take effect, at which time Benjamin F. Conley, President of the Senate, was sworn in as governor. This was a clever attempt on Bullock's part to prolong Republican control in a state which had clearly declared itself Democratic.[48] Indeed, it was provided by law, that in the event of the death or resignation of the governor, the office was to be filled by the president of the senate.

A few days after the new Legislature was organized, with L. N. Trammell, of Gordon County and James M. Smith, of Columbus, both Democrats, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, respectively, it passed resolutions in relation to the resignation of Rufus B. Bullock and in relation to the Executive Mansion.

"*Resolved,* That Rufus B. Bullock, late Governor of the State of Georgia, who has resigned his office and left the State under circumstances creating grave suspicion that he is guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors, has, in charging, in a letter bearing the date 23d October, 1871, addressed to his political friends and the people of Georgia, that a majority of the House of Representatives had pledged themselves to vote for articles of impeachment against him without investigation, and that the Senate had determined to unseat a sufficient number of Republican Senators to secure his conviction without regard to the truth and validity of the charges, defamed this General Assembly by charges which are untrue. That the statement in the same letter to the effect that the people of Georgia have recently denounced or ignored the Constitution of the United States is false and defamatory of the people of this State. On the contrary, we assert that the people of this State do now, as they did six months ago (when, according to the letter of the said Rufus B. Bullock, they were peaceably disposed), acquiesce in the result of the war, and neither entertain any hostility toward the United States, nor deny to any person within the limits of the State the equal protection of the laws.

Of force through lapse of time, November 13, 1871."[49]

"WHEREAS, Rufus B. Bullock, late Governor of Georgia, has absconded, leaving the Executive Mansion unoccupied, to the end that the Legislature may be informed of the condition of things pertaining to the same, be it

"*Resolved,* That a joint special committee of two from the Senate and three from the House of Representatives be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine all the house and kitchen furniture, silverware and all other articles and implements, etc., connected with the Executive Mansion, also the inventory of the same as it was taken when said articles were turned over to said R. B. Bullock, and report the same to the Legislature at as early a day as practicable.

Of force through lapse of time, November 29, 1871."[50]

The Governor's Mansion in Atlanta was never again to be so hastily evacuated.

The Legislature of 1871 had no sooner been organized than the question arose as to who should act as governor—Conley, President of the previous Senate, and no longer a member of the legislature, or Trammell, the new Senate President. Conley held on but was unable to force his claim to office for the full unexpired term of Bullock. The legislature passed over Conley's veto a law requiring an election for governor to be held on the third Tuesday of December.[51]

The Democratic nominee was the new Speaker of the House, James Milton Smith. He was a native of Twiggs County, the son of a farmer. After admission to the bar in 1846, he settled in Columbus, where he practiced until the war broke in 1861. Entering Confederate service as a major, he was soon promoted to Colonel, and saw active service in Virginia from first Manassas to Cold Harbor, where he was wounded. After the war he returned to Columbus and resumed practice until he he was sent to the legislature by the people of Muscogee County in 1870.[52]

The Republicans were in a dilemma as to the best policy to pursue. Some of the leaders, mostly anti-Bullock men, held a caucus in Atlanta, and put forward as candidate, James Atkins, a member of the legislature of 1868. He, however, declined the nomination, and the election, held on December 6, 1871, fell to Smith without opposition.[53] The dawn of a new day in Georgia was getting brighter and brighter.

NOTES—CHAPTER 49

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 9, 1870.

[2] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1871; Reed, *Atlanta,* 257.

[3] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 8, 1870.

[4] *City Directory,* 1871, pp. 42-43.

[5] Commission Book, Dept. Archives and History, Atlanta.

[6] *Ga. Laws,* 1871-1872, p. 103.

[7] *Ibid.,* 104.

[8] Record Postmasters, De Kalb.

[9] Reed, *Atlanta,* 257.

[10] *Ibid.; Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 2, 1871.

[11] *Ga. Laws,* 1871-1872, p. 57.

[12] "Garrett's Necrology;" John D. Humphries, "A Sketch of The Atlanta Bench and Bar," *A.H.B.,* IX (Nov., 1936) 32.

[13] *Ga. Laws,* 1871-1872, p. 65; Reed, *Atlanta,* 257.

[14] "Garrett's Necrology;" Clark Howell, ed. in chief, *The Book of Georgia* (Atlanta, 1920), 521, 554.

[15] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 6, 1871.

[16] *Atlanta Journal,* Feb. 27, 1908.

[17] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 25, 1871.

[18] Walter McElreath, "The Builders of Street Transportation in Atlanta." Undated typescript, Atlanta Historical Society.

[19] Wade H. Wright, "Georgia Power Company." *A.H.B.,* XIV (July, 1938), 198.

[20] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1872, p. 160.

[21] Wright, "Georgia Power Co.," *loc. cit.,* 198-199; *City Directory,* 1872, p. 160.

[22] Minutes W. & A. R. R. Co., 1870, p. 30.

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] *Ibid.,* 71-72.

[25] *City Directory,* 1872, p. 155.

[26] *Atlanta Constitution,* March 24, 1871.

[27] *City Directory,* 1871, pp. 24-25.

[28] Pages 25-33.

[29] *Ibid.,* 25.

[30] Reed, *Atlanta,* 447.

[31] John S. Pemberton, 15 years later to originate Coca-Cola.

[32] Reed, *Atlanta,* 447.

[33] *Ibid.,* 448.

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] *Atlanta Constituition,* Nov. 14, 1948.

[36] *A.H.B.,* reprint, *loc. cit.,* 17.

[37] *Ibid.,* 31-33.

[38] "Garrett's Necrology."

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] Frances Pyron Dance, "An Atlanta Journalist of the Eighteen Sixties;" *Atlanta Journal,* May 24, 1936.

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[43] *Daily New Era,* June 16, 1871. Final disposition of the office files of the *Intelligencer* is something of a mystery. They were reportedly purchased from the estate of Judge Whitaker, who died in 1884, by the late Julius L. Brown. Brown died in 1910. If he owned the papers at the time of his death, none of his present descendants know what disposition he made of them, though a large part of his library went to Georgia Tech.

[44] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 276.

[45] Blair, *Official Register,* 1925, pp. 332, 337; *Ibid.,* 1927, pp. 496-497.

[46] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 667.

[47] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 269.

[48] *Ibid.,* 271.

[49] *Ga. Laws,* 1871-1872, pp. 263-264.

[50] *Ibid.,* 264.

[51] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 271-272.

[52] Northen, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia,* III, 478.

[53] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 272.

CHAPTER 50

1872

FRIDAY, January 12, 1872, was a day long to be remembered in Atlanta and throughout Georgia. James M. Smith was inaugurated as governor, and, for all practical purposes, Reconstruction in Georgia was over. The *Constitution* jubilantly recorded the event:[1]

"A Day of Rejoicing

"This, the 12th day of January, 1872, is one of Georgia's memorable days, to be blazoned in her history for all time to come for the occurrence of one of her leading and momentous events.

"It marks

THE DOWNFALL OF THE RADICAL DYNASTY

"What a world of meaning in the expression, misrule ended! An oppressed people redeemed! The restoration of honesty to public office!

"The morning dawned beautifully—a rare, sunny, cheerful, lovely day, as if nature itself rejoiced over the auspicious event.

"The occasion recalled the good old days of the State. By eleven o'clock the ladies began to flock to the State House, and by half-past eleven every available seat in the Representative Chamber and its galleries was occupied, and hundreds vainly sought admission. It was the spontaneous outpouring of the PEOPLE in rejoicing over the advent of the new era. It recalled in salient contrast the sham of inauguration that occurred when Bullock took the reins of government. Those who had the misfortune to witness that spectacle, with its immense concourse of negroes and its small attendance of whites, can realize the contrast between that occasion and one in which the sympathies and convictions of the people are enlisted. The contrast is typical too of the whole philosophy of the two occasions; one, the installation of a dynasty of corrupt adventurers forced upon a free people, by the bayonet, against their will; the other, the inauguration of a regime based upon the consent of the governed, and reflecting the virtue and intelligence of a great Commonwealth.

"A deep, electric, intense feeling of joy pervaded the vast assemblage of Georgia's best sons and fairest daughters.

"At seven minutes of twelve the Senate entered the Representative Chamber and President Trammell took the chair.

"At precisely twelve Governor Smith entered the Chamber, accompanied by the Acting Governor, the State House officers, Supreme and Superior Court Judges, and by several leading citizens, among them General Toombs, General Colquitt, Colonel P. W. Alexander, Ex-Governor Brown and others.

"Governor Smith, according to the old custom, delivered his inaugural, and then took the oath of office himself. . . .

"The inaugural was received with repeated applause. As the Governor concluded taking the oath of office the applause was deafening and prolonged. It rolled forth in a vast and increasing volume, representing the spontaneous outbursting of popular joy at the great event.

"The Governor retired, the Senate withdrew and the House adjourned.

"Then burst forth a long, strong call for 'Toombs.' But Mr. Toombs had retired.

"The crowd dispersed. Once more we breathe. The reign of law and order begins. Since Governor Jenkins was deposed by military despotism, we have had a long night of Radical rule and Cimmerian darkness. That rule is ended. The darkness is succeeded by light. Thank God Georgia is redeemed."

Ex-Governor Jenkins, deposed in 1868, returned shortly after the inauguration of Governor Smith, with the Executive Seal of the State which had "never been desecrated by the grasp of a military usurper's hand." In appreciation the Legislature of 1872 authorized Governor Smith to present to him a gold facsimile, bearing the inscription, *In arduis fidelis.*[2]

In the regular gubernatorial election of 1872, held in October, Governor Smith was re-elected for a full term, defeating Dawson A. Walker, of Murray County, the Republican nominee, by a vote of 104,256 to 45,812.[3]

The Legislature of 1872 occupied considerable time with an investigation of the Bullock regime and the H. I. Kimball empire, the latter having fallen apart about the time of Bullock's departure. Upon leaving Atlanta, Kimball went to Chicago and Bullock to his old home at Albion, New York.[4]

Robert Toombs volunteered his services as prosecuting attorney for the investigating committees, which found Bullock guilty of corruption, dishonesty, and general mismanagement. The charges against Bullock and his administration occupied 161 printed pages. Many of these charges were indictable offenses. Yet, when he was finally brought to justice in Georgia in 1876, proof to convict was insufficient and acquittal resulted. Bullock's defense of his term as governor, made in October, 1872, in an Address to the People of Georgia, was that his administration was not so bad after all. Six hundred miles of railroad had been built, property had increased in value by $50,000,000, and the rate of taxation had not increased. However, the legislature of 1872 declared bonds, amounting to $7,958,000, issued during Bullock's regime, to be fraudulent, null and void. It had been the proceeds of bonds, rather than increased taxes, that supported the excesses of the Reconstruction legislature.[5]

In February, 1874, Hannibal I. Kimball suddenly turned up in Atlanta, and announced that he was ready to meet his detractors. He defied anyone to produce any evidence that he had done any illegal act relative to the endorsement of railroad bonds, or about anything else. His challenge was not accepted. No indictment was found. A little later Kimball, and Bullock too, were to be numbered among Atlanta's leading business men.[6]

The political results of Reconstruction were, in the long run, the least important of all in the later history of Georgia and of the Atlanta area. The important influence of Republicanism was its reaction on social relations and economic conditions. Despite three years of waste and extravagance, Georgia, and particularly Atlanta, recovered rather easily from financial abuse and mismanagement.[7]

Politically, the uniqueness of Reconstruction was to constitute the Negro a voter, and to make the government Republican in party politics. In 1872, as noted earlier, control of the state government passed to the Democrats. To make this political reversal possible, many Negroes, by intimidation, persuasion and just plain indifference, ceased to be voters and gradually became of less and less importance in politics. Thus the greatest political achievement of Congressional Reconstruction was at least partially undone. For the whites, in removing the political rights from the Negroes, also limited their own political freedom. From thenceforth the Southern white had no freedom of choice—he had to be a Democrat.[8]

In its largest sense, Reconstruction in Georgia meant a wider democratization of society. The state, even before the war, was not, as frequently pictured, under the control of the so-called "slave oligarchy." The small farmer of moderate means owning few or no slaves was more than a negligible factor in ante-bellum life. Of this class came Alexander H. Stephens and Joseph E. Brown, both potent leaders. Therefore, the change that came by Reconstruction was one of degree rather than of kind. When former leaders were set aside by the terms of Reconstruction, the way was opened to the middle class.[9]

As the economic supremacy of the planter class declined with the passing of slavery, other kinds of wealth than land and slaves became a basis of social prestige. The Reconstruction period was also followed by a shifting in sectional dominance. Centers of influence moved from the cotton belt along the coast to the uplands. Indeed, Atlanta, in the Piedmont, with its tremendous postwar growth, is a prime example of the forces that Reconstruction brought into action. Hard to endure though it was, the period from 1865 to 1872 was by no means a total loss as to progress.[10]

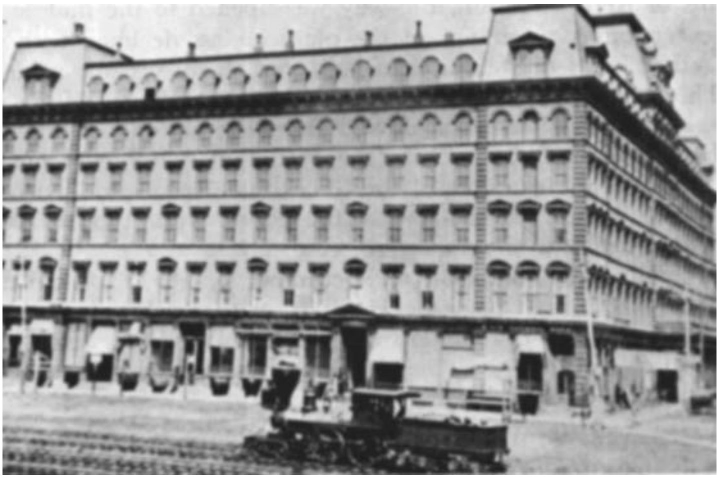
The municipal election, held on December 6, 1871, for officers to serve Atlanta during 1872 was a one-ticket affair, with Banker John H. James as the Democratic standard-bearer. He was elected mayor over some independent candidates, whose total vote was negligible.[11] The Council, elected at the same time, was composed of the following gentlemen:

First Ward—Charles W. Wells and M. T. Castleberry.
Second Ward—Cicero C. Hammock and Dr. E. J. Roach.
Third Ward—Lemuel P. Grant and Thomas A. Morris.
Fourth Ward—Henry L. Wilson and T. W. J. Hill.
Fifth Ward— Austin Leyden and Alfred L. Fowler.
Sixth Ward—John P. Mayes and W. L. Morris.
Seventh Ward—Robert M. Farrar and Russell C. Mitchell.[12]

The slate of city officers for the year was composed of S. B. Love, clerk; J. W. Goldsmith, treasurer; A. W. Mitchell, recorder and auditor; R. J. Cowart, Judge, City Court; W. T. Newman, city attorney; J. H. Franklin, tax receiver and collector; George Stewart, superintendent of streets; W. Y. Langford, superintendent of alms house; C. C. Hart, physician at alms house; John Connally, city sexton; John F. Morris, I. S. Mitchell and R. C. White, assessors; J. S. Porter, magazine keeper; Pat Fitzgibbon, hall keeper; Frank Stewart, clerk of market; Hugh Angier, city engineer.[13]

The city police were headed this year, as Chief Marshal, by the noted ex-soldier, Brigadier-General George T. "Old Tige" Anderson. This colorful character was born at Covington, Georgia, in 1824. He left Emory College at Oxford at the age of 21 to serve in the Mexican War as lieutenant of cavalry in General Kearney's command. After distinguished service he was given a captain's command in the regular army, in which he served until the War Between the States broke out. He thereupon organized a company of infantry in his native county, Walton. The company was later absorbed into the 11th Georgia, of which Anderson was made colonel. He was subsequently wounded at Second Manassas; was commissioned brigadier-general at Sharpsburg for unusual gallantry and skill, and was severely wounded at Gettysburg. Upon recovery, he served at Knoxville, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and finally, under Longstreet at Appomattox. The General came to Atlanta soon after the war, and for several years was freight agent of the Georgia Railroad. After a year's service as Chief Marshal of Atlanta, Anderson moved to Anniston, Alabama, where he served as city clerk and tax assessor until his death in 1901.[14]

Other officials of the city police serving under Anderson in 1872 were: John L. Johnson, first deputy; J. S. Smith, second deputy; J. Sid Holland, first lieutenant of police; Henry Holmes, second lieutenant, and W. H. Holcombe, third lieutenant.[15]



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

First Kimball House, showing Wall Street facade and Pryor Street frontage on right, built 1870, destroyed by fire, 1883. W. & A. Railroad tracks with typical locomotive of the period in foreground.

During the regime of General Anderson the police force lost its first man in line of duty. During early March, 1872, the Fort Valley, Georgia, bank was robbed, and the Atlanta police were instructed to be on the lookout for the robbers. On the cold night of March 5th officer M. W. Rasberry, former Confederate army captain, and detective E. C. Murphy stood, muffled against the weather, at Pryor and Decatur streets looking for suspicious characters. Not long afterward, Penn Bedell, a professional gambler and himself a Confederate veteran, walked up with a companion. Rasberry, not recognizing the companion, scrutinized his face closely, much to the annoyance of Bedell, who made some caustic remarks to the policeman. In a fit of anger Rasberry drew his pistol to fire, but as he drew, Bedell grabbed the gun and it was fired into Rasberry's abdomen. The wound resulted fatally two days later. Rasberry was a popular member of Atlanta Lodge No. 59, F. & A. M., and of Tallulah Fire Company No. 3. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[16]

Less than two years later, in February, 1874, Penn Bedell, while out on bail, was himself shot and killed by Gaines Chisolm at Pryor and Wall streets, just one block from the site of the fatal affray of 1872.[17]

Probably the most important local event of 1872 was the official opening of Atlanta's public school system, long deferred and sorely needed. Concrete steps, including the election of a board of education, were taken in late 1869.

On September 30, 1870, an Act of the Legislature, approved by Governor Bullock, empowered the Mayor and Council of Atlanta to establish and maintain a system of Public Schools within the city. The system was to be free to all children within the city limits, and the Mayor and Council were given the power to raise the needed revenue through taxation, bond issue or otherwise.[18]

In October, 1870, a census of the scholastic population of Atlanta disclosed a total of 6,474 school children, of which 3,129 were colored. In November following an ordinance was passed by City Council providing for the school system. It was submitted to a vote of the people at the city election of December 8, 1870, and was indorsed by an overwhelming majority.[19]

Throughout 1871 the work of getting the school system established went actively forward. The *Constitution* for November 28th of that year commented:

> "The board of education seems to be taking hold of the work of public education in earnest, and we believe we shall soon see a system of public schools in successful operation. They have wisely determined to at once establish a high school, and thus from the beginning provide for scholars of all grades. We do not doubt that the board will place competent teachers in these schools, appointing those best qualified without partiality, fear or favor.
>
> "At a recent meeting of the board, Mr. Mallon, superintendent, was unanimously elected secretary of the board. We observe that the city council, at their meeting Friday evening, re-elected Messrs. Blanchard and Hemphill, whose terms had just expired, and appointed Messrs. Lowry and Scruggs to the vacancies made by the death of Dr. O'Keefe and the resignation of Dr. Stout.
>
> "The board now consists of Hon. J. E. Brown, president; J. P. Logan, M.D., vice-president; E. E. Rawson, L. E. Bleckley, John H. Flynn, L. P. Grant, D. Mayer, H. T. Phillips, W. L. Scruggs, W. A. Hemphill, M. C. Blanchard, R. J. Lowry, Hon. D. F. Hammond, mayor *ex-officio,* and B. Mallon, superintendent.
>
> "The building on Ivy Street is nearly completed, and the one on Crew Street is well on its way. There was considerable delay in commencing work on the Walker Street house, but they will probably all be finished by January 1."

Atlanta's first superintendent of schools, Bernard Mallon, was born in Ireland in 1824, and brought to New York City at the age of 3, where he was educated. In 1853 he moved to Savannah, Georgia, and became principal of the high school and later superintendent of schools in that city. From there he came to Atlanta, where he brought to the local schools a ripe experience, an energy which could overcome all obstacles, and a grace and suavity of manner which at once multiplied his friends among the old and the young. After several years his health failed and he moved to Huntsville, Texas, dying there on October 21, 1879, only two months after leaving Atlanta. His body was brought back to Atlanta and now rests under a substantial monument in Oakland Cemetery.[20]

On January 4, 1872, the city was divided into three school districts. The Walker Street district, comprising the First and Sixth wards; the Crew Street, Second and Third wards, and Ivy Street, the Fourth, Fifth and Seventh wards. The Walker Street school was located at the intersection of Walker, Haynes and Nelson streets; the Crew Street school at the northwest corner of Crew and Clarke streets, and the Ivy Street school on the east side of that street between Cain and Harris streets.

The Atlanta schools were first organized as grammar and high schools. The former comprised eight grades or classes, corresponding to the first eight years of the child's school life, ages 6 to 14. The high school comprised four grades, for the 14 to 18 age group. In the grammar schools were taught spelling, reading, writing, geography, mental and written arithmetic, natural history, the elements of the natural sciences, English grammar, vocal music, drawing, history and elocution. In the high schools, orthography, elocution, grammar, physical geography, natural philosophy, Latin, Greek, algebra, chemistry, composition, rhetoric, English literature, French, German, physiology and geometry. A review of the grammar school course was also required in the high school.[21]

In December, 1871, an examination was held for teachers in the public schools. Eighty-three applicants were examined—17 gentlemen and 68 ladies. Of these, 21 ladies and 6 gentlemen were elected. Afterward, two additional teachers for the Girls' High School were appointed.[22]

It might be well to preserve the names of Atlanta's first public school teachers, a number of whom were so connected through life, some in fact until fairly recent years.

High school—W. M. Janes, principal; E. G. Moore, first assistant; W. A. Bass, second assistant.

Grammar schools—Orson Rockwell, John Isham and Wellborn M. Bray, principals.

Seventh grade teachers— Miss Emma E. Latimer, Miss Jennie H. Clayton and Mrs. R. J. McKeon.

Sixth grade teachers—Miss Eliza A. Heath, Miss L. A. Field and Miss Hattie S. Young.

Fifth grade teachers—Miss Mattie F. Andrews, Miss Tallulah H. Ellis and Miss Ella W. Smillie.

Fourth grade teachers—Miss M. L. Wood, Miss Tilla W. Roberts and Mrs. H. H. Colquitt.

Third grade teachers—Miss Ruth M. Larabee, Mrs. Virginia F. Bessent and Mrs. C. J. Brown.

Second grade teachers—Miss N. E. V. Sallas, Miss Sallie F. Johnson and Mrs. Caroline P. Sams.

First grade teachers—Miss Margaret M. Duggan, Miss S. A. Williams and Miss Anna M. Brown.[23]

Tuesday, January 30th, was the day selected for the opening of the school system, and quite a day it was.

The inauguration took place during the forenoon at the Ivy Street School House. Despite inclement weather, the building was jammed by 10 A.M., the ladies being out in full force. The exercises opened with an impressive prayer by the Rev. Clement A. Evans. President Joseph E. Brown, of the board of education, introduced the principal speaker, Chancellor A. A. Lipscomb, of the State University. During the course of his appropriate address, the Chancellor congratulated the President, Board of Education, Superintendent and people on the happy issue of their labors. He looked upon the public school system as the wisest, greatest, and best of all the acts done in Atlanta.[24]

Other speakers of the day were the Rev. A. T. Spalding, Dr. S. H. Stout, Gustavus J. Orr, State School Commissioner; Judge H. K. McCay of the State Supreme Court; Mayor John H. James, and President Brown. The latter closed the exercises by delivering the keys of the public schools to Superintendent Mallon, who responded in a graceful manner.[25]

Next day the Ivy Street School opened, but owing to the fact that the furnace failed to heat the building sufficiently, classes were adjourned until Monday, the 5th.[26] Boys' High School opened February 1st; Girls' High on the 5th, and Crew and Walker Street schools on the 21st.[27] Both the Boys' and Girls' High Schools were located originally above a store building at 65 Whitehall Street, near Hunter. In 1873 Girls' High was moved to the old Neal home at Washington and Mitchell streets, just vacated by Oglethorpe College. Here it remained, with enlargements and remodelings, until 1926, when a handsome brick building was erected for the institution at the east end of Rosalia Street on city property near Grant Park. This building now houses the co-educational Franklin D. Roosevelt High School.[28]

For 24 years Boys' High had a peripatetic existence. It remained at 65 Whitehall Street until 1874; thence to a location on Ivy Street. In 1876 it shared the Girls' High location, remaining until 1892 when it moved to the northeast corner of Edgewood Avenue and Porter Alley, now Equitable Place. Finally in 1896 the school occupied an adequate building, erected for the purpose, at the southeast corner of Courtland and Gilmer streets. Early on the freezing Sunday morning of January 6, 1924, this large red brick building was completely gutted by fire. After a week's vacation the student body was accommodated in the old Walker Street school building. By the next September one unit of the present plant at Parkway Drive and Tenth Street was completed. To this site the combined Boys' High and Tech High were moved, the latter having had its inception in 1909 when the manual training department of Boys' High was organized separately.[29] Boys' High and Tech High are no more. The city high schools are all co-educational, and the Parkway Drive plant is now the Henry Grady High School.

The Atlanta public school system began operating under a handicap it has never overcome, inadequate physical facilities for the number of students to be accommodated. At its inception 1,000 children were provided for, and 2,090 came knocking at the door. Before 1872 was over a temporary school was opened on Luckie Street; another at 188-190 Decatur Street was started, and a lot was purchased on Marietta Street near Simpson Street upon which the Marietta Street School was soon built.[30] The public schools of Atlanta marched valiantly forward.

Under date of June 30, 1872, S. P. Richards wrote in his diary:

> "The Public School Examinations have been held the past week and on Thursday night the Girls' High School gave a Soiree of Music, Tableaux & Calisthenics. The house was full at a dollar a head and every one was pleased so that last night it was repeated at half price and again was a success. The object is to buy a piano for the school, and they have succeeded."

Prior to 1872 street car service was available only to those Atlantans who lived along the route to the West End. Soon after this line had been placed in operation, however, books were opened for subscriptions to build lines on Peachtree, Marietta and Decatur streets. After an attempt to raise funds unsuccessfully by canvass, George W. Adair and Richard Peters took all the stock necessary to build these three lines and others, including a line out Washington Street to Jones Street (now Woodward Avenue), and Jones Street to and out Capitol Avenue (then McDonough Street) to Fulton Street.[31]

The Marietta Street Line, upon which cars began running on January 14, 1872, extended out that street to the Rolling Mills (near North Avenue). In 1880 it was extended to the exposition grounds, now the site of the Exposition Cotton Mills.[32]

The Decatur Street Line extended from Peachtree out Decatur Street to Yonge Street opposite the Decatur Street entrance to Oakland Cemetery, long since closed. It was put into operation May 3, 1872, and, in 1888, was extended to Boulevard.[33]

The Peachtree Street Line began at Decatur Street and ran north to Pine Street. Service began on August 8, 1872.[34]

By 1874 the street railroad system had become a well-organized business entity called the Atlanta Street Railroad Company with Richard Peters as president; George W. Adair, treasurer, and Ralph Peters,[35] superintendent. The West End Line had been extended to the West End Mineral Springs, later Stanton Springs, at what is now Gordon and Peoples streets. The Marietta, or Rolling Mill Line, now ran to the old Ponder home at Ponder Avenue. A new line had been built out Whitehall Street to McDaniel Street, and the Taylor Hill Line was in operation. The latter operated along West Mitchell Street to Thompson, now Spring Street; thence to the Nelson Street bridge, and across it to Elliott Street; thence to Markham Street to Mangum Street to Hunter Street, and out Hunter to Haynes Street, the high ground at that point being known as Taylor's Hill.[36]

In order to properly house its office, live stock and cars, the Atlanta Street Railroad Company purchased, in 1874, two lots on nearly opposite sides of Line Street, now Exchange Place. Upon one of these the company erected its stables, and upon the other a car shed. The stables had a brick front, wherein were located offices, and in the rear, stalls for live stock. Also in the rear were a harness and blacksmith shop. Each hostler was responsible for the care of seven mules. The latter were fed on mashed food, but no corn, which diet kept the animals in the pink of condition at all times. The stalls had water and drainage and were well ventilated.[37]

The car shed stood across the street, on part of the present site of the Hurt Building. A turntable arrangement enabled the cars, as they were brought in at night, to be placed side by side as were the mules in their stalls. The barn contained all necessary equipment for repairs to rolling stock. On the first floor was the office of James A. Adair, paymaster, who each night received the cash boxes from the cars as they checked in, and also the returns of tickets and sales from the drivers. Upstairs, the bookkeeping department was presided over by Ralph Peters, whose fine system showed at a glance the earnings of each car from the time it was placed upon the track.[38]

The total working force of the Atlanta Street Railway Company at this time consisted of the following:[39]

1 bookkeeper
16 car drivers
1 blacksmith
1 car cleaner
1 harness-maker
1 stable boss
1 watchman
16 hostlers
1 striker
1 helper
17 cars..........114 mules

The management of the company, having the peace of mind of lady passengers and prospective passengers in mind, published notices calculated to inspire confidence. One such notice read:

"The drivers of the street cars are mostly married men, citizens of Atlanta, and are so careful of their duties that ladies by themselves could ride in perfect safety at any hour of the day from one end of the line to the other."[40]

The early Atlanta street cars were operated by one man, the driver, who kept one eye on the mules and the other on his "fares." Each car was equipped with a small glass covered box, into which passengers dropped their nickels. Through the glass the driver could count his money and check on his passengers. He had one bell for ringing up fares, and another which sometimes proved embarrassing. When some passenger absent-mindedly forgot to pay as he or she entered, this bell set up a continuous ting-a-ling, which made everyone in the car feel guilty. So it was, in the early seventies, that the jingling of harness bells and the crack of the driver's whip, were sounds which heralded the latest in local transportation.[41]

An early watering place in the Atlanta area, long before there was any Atlanta, was Yancey Spring, located on the property of pioneer settler Richard C. Todd in Land Lot 17 of the 14th District. It was in the low ground just south of where the present Southern Railway belt line, formerly Air-Line Railroad, crosses Ponce de Leon Avenue.

As construction of the Air-Line railroad proceeded, during 1868, it became necessary to bury Yancey Spring under a fill. Consequently a new source of water supply for the railroad camp had to be found. A party from the camp began to explore the low lying woods nearby and, on the present site of the Sears-Roebuck store, found their goal. At the base of a rather steep and rounded hillside two springs were found, very close together, but of entirely different waters. They were shaded by ancient beech trees, giving to the place a cool and restful atmosphere. The capacity of the two springs was not large; but the water was found to be very cold and of excellent quality.[42]

Not long afterward came the surprising discovery of the medicinal and curative value of the water. It is said that a considerable amount of sickness prevailed among the men of the railroad camp at the time it was established. Yet, after being in the vicinity of the springs for a few weeks, and drinking the spring water exclusively, most of those who were sick found themselves growing steadily better. Many recovered entirely, and the fame of the two springs under the ancient beech trees near the new railroad fill began to spread. Atlantans began to drive the dusty two miles to the new watering place, which soon became a resort. An appropriate name was needed. It was supplied, in 1870, by Dr. Henry L. Wilson, formerly a physician, but then and for many years afterward, a well-known property owner and real estate man. In recognition of the value of the water in giving renewed health and vitality to those who drank it regularly, he suggested "Ponce de Leon," which henceforth became the official name.[43]

On September 11, 1871, to accommodate the ever-increasing demand for Ponce de Leon water, John M. Armistead,[44] proprietor of the springs, inaugurated a wagon delivery, by the gallon, to private residences in Atlanta.[45]

By the spring of 1872 the springs had become so well known as to merit a front page story in the *Constitution* of May 14th. It was inspired by a

"Visit to Ponce de Leon

"*Editors Constitution:* There are, I believe, only a few people of Georgia, and those few belonging to Atlanta and her vicinity, who are aware of the existence of the valuable spring, the curative properties of which have only been determined within the past two years, called 'Ponce de Leon Spring.'

"This spring is distanced about two miles from the city, and reached by a charming drive over one of the best pike roads in this State. Saturday afternoon [May 11th] a party of guests of the Kimball House—12 in number—ladies and gentlemen, accepted the invitation of that gentlemanly and always provident prince of hosts, Mr. Crittenden, and took seats in the omnibus—one of an established line daily to the Spring, at half past six o'clock. We were a merry party, determined to enjoy the occasion, independent of *dust.*

"The air was cool and pleasant . . . and four swift and spirited horses, handled by a thoroughly skillful whip, carried us swiftly over the hill and through valley along the beautiful and picturesque road, bordered alternately with pretty cottages, luxuriant gardens, historical ruins and breastworks. From the tops of hills as we passed over them could be seen the city we were leaving behind, a city of hills, billows of houses and gardens, the 'big hotel' standing prominently overtopping all, and far away in the distance the blue line of Tennessee mountain, with big and little Kennesaw, Lost and Stone Mountains plainly in sight.

"Before us lay a picture romantic and perfect enough to enchant an artist's soul. The beautiful forest greens in all shades of spring—glorious in nature's childhood—flower-laden climbing plants . . . wild azalia . . . and the modest purple wood violet. . . . Past all this we sped. Swiftly we turned a sharp corner of 'Virginny rail' and down we ran into a wild, weird-looking spot shut in apparently from all surroundings. To the left rose a high embankment crowned with railroad, 'Air Line,' we stop at the base.

"To the right rises a small hill, at its foot a substantially large covered platform has been erected for dancing. The hill is terraced in steps, winding around to its summit. In front, a higher hill; steps well secured, of strong wood, have been placed up its sides, and at the summit a rustic table is arranged for picnics; benches and seats are scattered around under trees, and in natural bowers, very suggestive (to young folks) of pleasant tete-a-tetes. Winding around and over these hills, Mr. Crittenden has opened a new road. It is beautifully shaded and invitingly cool. This leads out over a beautiful running stream of clear, limpid water, singing over rocks and festooned by nature most gracefully, with the lovely scarlet woodbine.

"THE SPRINGS

are at the base of railroad embankment, and between that and main hill. They gush clear and cool out of a large rock, and what is very curious that only a slight rocky division of about six inches divides two separate and distinct springs. The one clear water, the other mineral—icy cold. The mineral has a slightly inky, chemical taste, but very palatable and light. Both springs flow from one rock. Physicians highly recommend the properties of Ponce de Leon in all kidney diseases. A tastefully arranged rustic bridge spans the little stream flowing from springs, and a little waterfall rushes musically through and over embankment and rocks. By the bridges the springs can be approached with ease and comfort. Not only great ingenuity has been developed here in detail, but great consideration for comfort of visitors.

"Very true this project of the springs is a matter of business; yet it is not a selfish business. In developing their powers, Mr. Crittenden develops other avenues of enterprise. Every stranger coming to this city, hoping to benefit his health, brings with him additional advantages to all business enterprises; however little each may profit it is still a little gained.

"In this splendidly arranged and well-managed house every comfort can be found. Invalids find too in this city medical men second to none in the States—superior to many anywhere—and the pleasure seekers can find it here, if anywhere, substantially. . . .

INCOG."

Thus, in the year of our Lord, 1872, appeared the spot where today thousands daily throng the quarters of one of the great mercantile firms of the country.

Three months after the Kimball House guests visited Ponce de Leon Springs, S. P. Richards, his wife, and a lady friend drove out. That the trip was not productive of unalloyed pleasure is indicated by his diary entry of August 1, 1872:

"Sallie and I drove out to Ponce de Leon this evening and took Mrs. West as she had never been there. It was too dusty to be pleasant, and to make matters worse our carriage got out of order and threatened to capsize. I had to jump out every few minutes to examine the bolt that had 'bolted.' At last, Sallie thought of her garters and I enlisted them into service and we then got along better. Mrs. West's garters were too elastic. To crown our misery tho' they were fixing the Spring with masonry and we got no water."

The heavy traffic between the city and Ponce de Leon Springs did not escape the attention of the street car people. They saw much prospective revenue and determined to garner it. Accordingly, in 1874, the Peachtree Street Line was extended north to what is now Ponce de Leon Avenue, and thence over a private right-of-way through the country to the springs. Construction of this line entailed an engineering project not encountered on other lines. It was necessary to bridge the deep ravine and creek between the present Myrtle Street and Argonne Avenue. In 38 working days, a wooden trestle standing on stone piers, measuring 270 feet in length and 40 feet in height, was constructed. It was the marvel of the street railway system.[46]

The charter of the street railway company allowed a fare of 20 cents per passenger. However, it commenced operations with a 10-cent fare, which was soon reduced to 5 cents. Only exception was the Ponce de Leon line, for which an extra charge of 5 cents was made beyond North Avenue. The additional fare was justified upon the basis of expensive construction, seasonal operation, and the lack of regular patrons in the unsettled region through which the line passed.[47]

When Dr. Henry L. Wilson gave the name Ponce de Leon to the springs in John Armistead's beech grove at the foot of the Air-Line Railroad embankment, he probably little realized that he had called into being an Atlanta area place name destined to become nearly as famous as Peachtree. Yet such was the case.

Since 1866, when baseball was introduced to Atlanta, the leading organization in the field was the Gate City Club. In 1872 it was followed by an equally famous club, the "Osceolas." This team included upon its roster W. Woods White, George Johnson, Lem Butler, Lewis Morrison, Oscar Collier, John Savage, Bud Lester, the invincible pitcher, Ed Payne, and the champion catcher, Charlie Pemberton. The latter was the son of John S. Pemberton, later to become the originator of Coca-Cola.[48]

After an undefeated early season, the "Osceolas" met a Waterloo in Rome, Georgia. Henry W. Grady, then of the *Rome Daily,* slipped in a New York pitcher, there being no rule preventing the use of outsiders, and the Atlanta team was shut out with one hit and no runs. Completely discouraged, the "Osceolas" returned home and disbanded, leaving a brief but shining mark in local baseball history.[49]

It was also in 1872, despite the new street cars, that a great walking craze struck Atlanta. Many noted matches were held in the roller skating rink on Forsyth Street. One such match in the rink, a 20-hour contest, attracted some 15 contestants, including Prater, called the "Mountain Wonder," and Sam W. Small, then a budding young journalist. By the twelfth hour all had dropped out save Prater and Small. The former finally won by 200 yards.[50]

At about the same time the W. & A. R. R. shop boys held an all-day picnic at Vinings. Prizes were offered for the winner of a walking match. Fifteen entered. All started at the Union Depot and walked the 13 miles to Vinings via the railroad. Milt Wells won by 25 yards.[51] Eventually, the walking craze subsided, but it was great fun while it lasted.

During the fall of 1872, on October 15th, De Kalb County held a very successful fair. It was described by a contemporary writer:

"The De Kalb County Fair at Lithonia yesterday was a most excellent success. There was a large attendance from all parts of the county and great interest manifested. The exhibition of articles was very gratifying. The ladies of course beat the men badly; their departments showing great numbers of articles.

"There was a good display of stock. De Kalb is coming back to pre-war times. There were displays of field crops and vegetables to cheer the lover of agricultural successes. The ladies, as we have stated, poured out in numbers and filled a large building with quilts, tidies and all sorts of needle work; with bread and preserves and jellies and all other fabrications of feminine industry and fancy. A jolly baby show enlivened the proceedings.

"Altogether the affair was a gratifying success, and everybody seemed pleased and left in the best of humor."[52]

Fulton County's original jail, on the east side of Frazer Street just north of Fair, had, as previously noted, been destroyed in 1864 and replaced by a more or less temporary structure on the same site. In 1872 the temporary building was succeeded by a substantial building, still on the original site, which served until the present jail was erected on Butler Street in 1897. The *Constitution* for April 26, 1872, described the new bastille:

"On the 22nd of April, 1871, the Ordinary of Fulton County advertised for sealed proposals for the building of a county prison on the old site. The contract was to be awarded on the 3rd of May and the work to be done by the 15th of October. The contract was awarded to Messrs. [Thomas] Alexander and [Benjamin H.] Broomhead. Owing to many difficulties the contractors did not complete it until about a month ago. The building is strong, durable, handsome and roomy—altogether one of the best to be found anywhere. It is well ventilated and is supplied with water, gas and every convenience.

"The jailor's residence fronts Frazer Street, with an office for the Sheriff or Jailor on one side, where prisoners are brought in, registered, and carried back to the prison. The basement has four rooms, for store room, kitchen, etc. The first and second floors have each four rooms for the use of the Jailor. These rooms are supplied with hot and cold water. The female department is over the Sheriff's office, and contains four cells 6 x 9. A large hall affords them a promenade.

"The prison part contains twelve cells on the first and second floors each 8 x 12. A corridor twelve feet wide divides the cells; a balcony, with iron railing, approached with steps in center affords egress and ingress to the upper cells. The basement is divided into rooms for kitchen, dining room, etc. The furnace for heating the building is situated in the basement underneath the corridor.

"The cells are supplied with water and water closets. In each department are bath tubs and soap stone wash troughs. The doors to the cells are of iron, grated, with a wicket for conveying food to the prisoners and shut by sliding bars. A wooden door on the outside is shut at night—both doors locked by a hand-made rim lock. The arrangement for locking the doors is ingenious, and renders efforts to open by prisoners unavailable.

"A well is situated in the center with a pump attached. In one hour the prisoners can pump water enough to fill the tank of 1800 gallon capacity over the officers' quarters.

"The prison part is constructed of rubble stone, granite lined; the Jailor's residence of brick, with granite ornamentations.

"The basement and first story corridors of main prison, kitchen, storeroom, cellar, prison hall, are concreted six inches in thickness; the inequalities over the brick arches are even with the tops of the crown. The floors after being concreted were recoated with cement mortar an inch thick.

"The roof is covered with slate. The windows to the cells are too small to admit the passage of any boy through them, yet admit plenty of light. A fine iron grating on the outside prevents possibility of communications from the outside.

"The prison part is protected by a high fence. All ingress or egress to the prison must be made through the Sheriff's office. The building reflects credit upon the contractors and the county. The cost will not exceed $40,000."

Another new building of 1872, dedicated to a happier purpose than the one just described, was that of Trinity Methodist Church. Since its founding in 1853, the church building had stood on Mitchell Street opposite the City Hall. In 1870 the congregation purchased a lot on the southwest corner of Whitehall and Peters (now Trinity Avenue) streets, where ground was broken on June 17, 1871. On the third Sunday in June, 1872, the Rev. Clement A. Evans preached the first sermon in the basement of the new church. For nearly 40 years the tall spire of Trinity was a Whitehall Street landmark. Then, in the spring of 1911, the property was sold and soon thereafter the present building, on the southwest corner of Washington Street and Trinity Avenue, named for the church, was erected.[53]

The rapid rise of realty values in downtown Atlanta has always been something of a phenomenon. One of the choicest business corners in the city, the George Muse location at Peachtree and Walton streets, figured in an 1872 deal, when, on May 24th, Calvin W. Hunnicutt paid Richard Peters and George W. Adair $16,000 for the property. Only two months before the Messrs.

Peters and Adair bought the corner for $15,000 from a purchaser who had acquired it in 1862 from Ammi Williams, the original owner, for $6,000. For more than a generation the gas and plumbing fixture firm of Hunnicutt and Bellingrath occupied the site. On November 30, 1917, Asa G. Candler, Incorporated, paid the estate of C. W. Hunnicutt $420,000 for the property. It is now worth several times that amount.[54]

By 1872 old Tight Squeeze (present 10th and Peachtree section) had become Blooming Hill, and inspired the following press comment:

"ATLANTA SPREADING—BLOOMING HILL,

October 10, 1872—*Editors Constitution:* Thinking a few dots about this end of Atlanta would be interesting to your readers, I proceed to give them.

"Blooming Hill is situated on Peachtree Street, two miles from the car shed and is a considerable little town outside of the corporate limits of Atlanta. Here we have several fine dwellings, two grocery stores and another building.

"Rough Rice, having become disgusted with the newspaper business in the city, has opened a liquor establishment here, and says whiskey sells better than literature. There is a Temperance Hall just fitted up here and a Lodge of Knights of Jericho organized. Jack Smith has a brickyard where he manufactures the best brick in the county. And last, but not least, the foundation has been laid for a church.

"Some of the citizens here want to know if there are any police on duty in Atlanta on Sunday nights, as some of them perambulated the streets last Sunday night for several hours hunting for a doctor, and could find no policeman to pilot them to a doctor's office. They say they halloed and banged on drug store doors enough to wake up the dead—and if they had been tight, they made noise enough to be put in the calaboose—and never did raise a policeman.

"I will let you hear from me again.

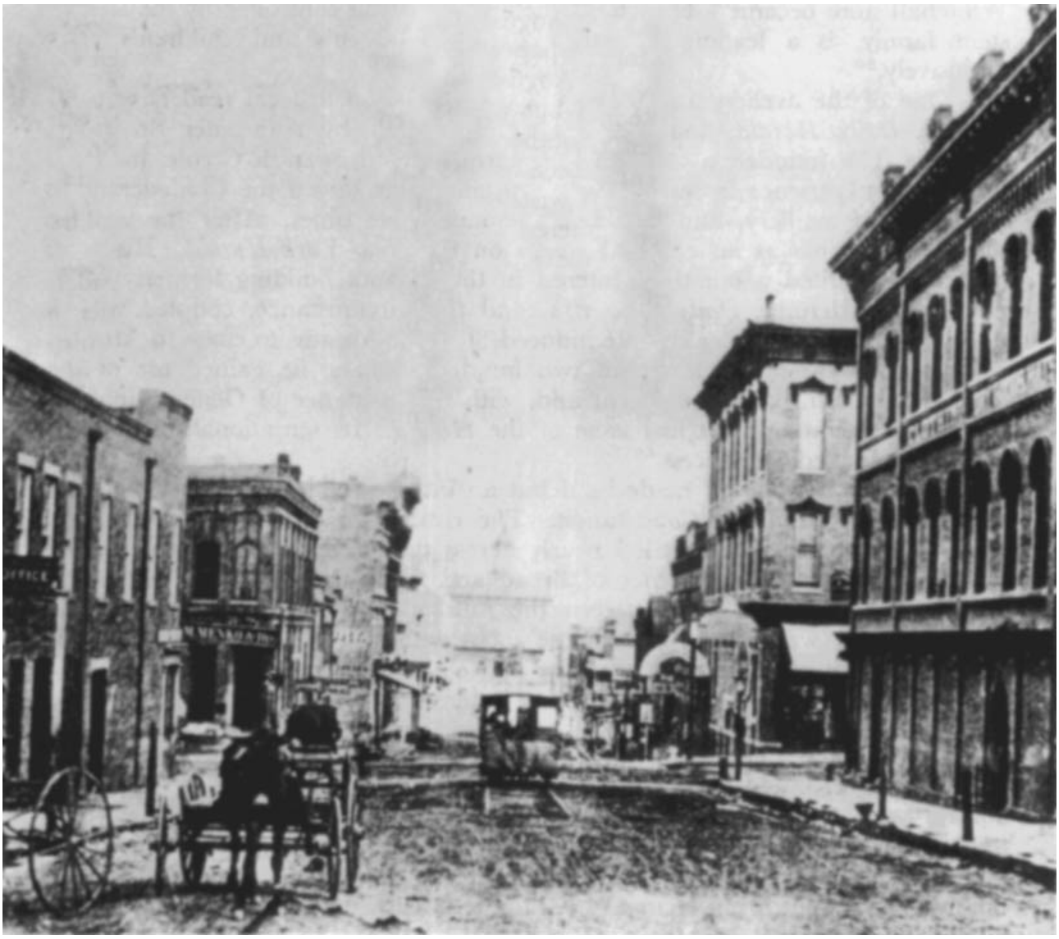
Yours, etc.

SPIKER."[55]

One of Atlanta's best-known banks of the decade of the 1870's was the Citizens Bank of Georgia, organized November 8, 1872. It began business at 8 North Pryor Street, in the ground floor of the Kimball House, on January 5, 1873, with John T. Grant as president and Perino Brown as cashier. The original directorate was composed of Grant, Joseph E. Brown, William Goodnow, Julius A. Hayden, William C. Morrill, William A. Rawson, John H. Flynn, J. W. Seaver and W. L. Walters. The first day's business brought in deposits of $133,000. Less than ten years later, in 1881, the Citizens Bank was forced to suspend operations. Its failure occasioned severe losses to depositors, liabilities exceeding assets by more than $350,000. Officers at the time of suspension were Perino Brown, president, and William H. Patterson, cashier.[56]

About the time the comparatively short-lived Citizens Bank of Georgia was setting up shop in 1872, a modest millinery and dry goods store was established at 74 Whitehall Street by the brothers Julius and Gabriel Regenstein. They were natives of Germany and came to Atlanta by way of Montevallo, Alabama. Julius assumed active control of the store. It was an old-time dry goods store in which everything a woman desired was offered for sale. There was no such thing as ready-to-wear in those days. A woman was supposed to know how to sew or to direct others. She bought her fashions in raw material. Even millinery was rare.[57]

Julius Regenstein was said to have been the first merchant in the South to employ a woman salesman, though by custom and tradition dry goods salesmen were men. Soon after Regenstein opened, however, Mrs. Martha Owens came to Atlanta to nurse her husband, a soldier, in his last illness. When he died she was stranded here without funds. She ignored tradition and went out to find a job. Julius Regenstein was the only merchant who would listen to her. "You clerk in a store?" he asked. "Why, it's simply not done. What could you do? Know anything about dry goods?" "I know this," Mrs. Owens stoutly insisted, "I could sell your goods."



(*Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society*)

Alabama Street looking east from Broad, 1872. Building at end of street is Georgia R.R. Freight Depot, still standing minus cupola

Mr. Regenstein, a kindly man, admired the woman's spunk and independence. He employed her and she stayed with him and made a good saleswoman until she died.[58]

Regenstein's prospered, and in 1890 moved to larger quarters on Whitehall Street. Founder Julius Regenstein died in the summer of 1914 at the advanced age of 88. His sons, Meyer, Louis and Joseph took over. Another break with tradition came in 1930, when the main store was moved to its present location at the southeast corner of Peachtree and Cain streets. The Whitehall store became a branch. Today the firm, still controlled by the Regenstein family, is a leading specialty store for women's and children's wear exclusively.[59]

One of the liveliest daily newspapers ever offered to local readers was the *Atlanta Daily Herald,* founded August 22, 1872, by Alexander St. Clair-Abrams. The founder, a talented but warm-blooded Spanish Creole, had had newspaper experience in several Southern cities. He served the Confederacy as a captain of artillery, and had been wounded five times. After the war he served for a time as an editorial writer on the *New York Herald.* His wife, however, inherited a one-third interest in the Atlanta building formerly occupied by the defunct *Daily New Era,* and this circumstance, coupled with a desire to live in a warmer climate induced St. Clair-Abrams to come to Atlanta. With a cash capital of less than two hundred dollars, he gained use of the *New Era* building and equipment and, with the assistance of General John B. Gordon, brought out the first issue of the *Herald.* Its sensationalism made it an almost immediate success.[60]

The day the *Herald* made its debut an intense rivalry developed between the new paper and the *Constitution.* The rivalry was intensified by the fact that the papers were domiciled nearly across the street from each other, the *Herald* at the northwest corner of Broad and Alabama, and the *Constitution* on the east side of Broad between the railroad and Alabama. Indeed, the street between was often full of loose rocks with which rival newsboys bombarded each other's windows until the police put a stop to the warfare.[61]

Before 1872 had ended two other interesting and noted characters had cast their lot with the *Herald* as one-third owners, Robert A. Alston and Henry W. Grady. The former was descended from the Alstons of South Carolina; had served with Morgan's Raiders during the late war, and was courageous to the point of recklessness. He was destined to die violently in the State House at Marietta and Forsyth streets seven years later.[62]

The *Herald* would have justified its life span of four years had it done nothing more than bring Henry W. Grady to Atlanta. The twenty-two-year-old journalist and native of Athens, Georgia, was induced by Robert A. Alston to purchase a one-third interest in the *Herald* for $5,000 and to move his residence from Rome to Atlanta in October, 1872.[63] Grady's subsequent brilliant but brief career of seventeen years will be elaborated upon later.

During its short life the *Herald* engaged in a spirited and relentless circulation fight with the *Constitution.* Want of capital, however, handicapped it from the start. With all flags flying it went down on February 14, 1876. Its books and subscription accounts were acquired by its older and more firmly established rival.[64]

The present Fulton County Medical Society had its inception in 1872 as the Atlanta Medical and Surgical Union. During the following year the name of the organization was changed to the Atlanta Academy of Medicine and, in 1885, to the Atlanta Society of Medicine. Finally, in 1905, the name of Fulton County Medical Society was adopted, and the organization became an integral part of the Medical Association of Georgia and the American Medical Association.[65]

As the survey and location of the Air-Line Railroad was being completed in 1872,[66] one of Atlanta's oldest railroads acquired, through consolidation, a new title. By Act of the Legislature, approved August 24th, the Macon & Western Railroad Company (Macon to Atlanta), and the Central Railroad & Banking Company of Georgia (Savannah to Macon), were authorized and empowered to consolidate under the charter and name of the latter.[67] The old Macon & Western became the Atlanta Division of the consolidated road, with Green J. Foreacre as superintendent.[68] A railroad designation, in common usage since 1846, had disappeared.

Eighteen seventy-two took its toll of pioneer citizens. Among them was Dr. James N. Simmons, 51, physician, merchant, and a leading member of the First Methodist Church, on January 11th. Rev. Richard Johnson, 63, a pioneer Episcopal minister of the city, died in February, and is buried at Oakland. Jacob Born, born in 1784, and founder of a well-known De Kalb County family, died at Lithonia on April 11th. He was the great-grandfather of our present estimable citizen and travel agent, John M. Born. The Rev. William H. Clarke, 68, a pioneer Methodist minister and farmer of the Decatur District of De Kalb County, died May 1st, and is buried in the Decatur Cemetery. Benjamin Little, age 75, who acquired land holdings and settled on the south side of Atlanta long before there was any Atlanta, died in September and is buried at Oakland. Little Street was named for him. Another old citizen for whom a street is named died October 1st. He was Frederick Krog, Sr., a resident since the middle 1840's and a skilled pattern maker. He is buried in an unmarked grave at Oakland. John Wesley White, 47, member of a well-known Panthersville District family, died on October 13th from injuries received when his hand was caught in a gin he was in the act of feeding. He was interred in the Clifton Methodist Churchyard near his home.[69]

NOTES—CHAPTER 50

[1] Jan. 13, 1872.
[2] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 277.
[3] *Ibid.*
[4] Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *loc. cit.,* 260; Avery, *History of Georgia,* 462.
[5] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 277-278; Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 273-274.
[6] Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball, His Career and Defense," *loc. cit.,* 263.
[7] Thompson, *Reconstruction in Georgia,* 399-401.
[8] *Ibid.*
[9] *Ibid.*
[10] *Ibid.*
[11] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 6-7, 1872.
[12] *City Directory,* 1872.
[13] *Ibid.*
[14] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* XIII, 247.
[15] *City Directory,* 1872.
[16] "Garrett's Necrology."
[17] *Ibid.*
[18] *City Directory,* 1872, p. 143.
[19] Reed, *Atlanta,* 339; *City Directory,* 1872, p. 145.
[20] "Garrett's Necrology;" Reed, *Atlanta,* 340.
[21] Reed, *Atlanta,* 342.
[22] *City Directory,* 1872, p. 146.
[23] Reed, *Atlanta,* 341-342.
[24] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 31, 1872.
[25] *Ibid.,* Feb. 1, 1872.
[26] *Ibid.*

[27] Clarke, *Atlanta* (3rd ed.), 61.

[28] City Directories, 1874-1927; *Atlanta Journal,* Rotogravure Section, Jan. 31, 1932.

[29] City Directories, 1874-1897; *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 31, 1932.

[30] Reed, *Atlanta,* 342-343.

[31] Wade H. Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *loc. cit.,* 199.

[32] *Ibid.*

[33] *Ibid.*

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] 1853-1923. A son of Richard, and later, president of The Long Island Rail Road.

[36] *City Directory,* 1874, p. 317; Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *loc. cit.,* 200.

[37] Augusta Wylie King, "Atlanta's First Car Barn." *A.H.B.,* XIX (Oct., 1939), 252.

[38] *Ibid.*

[39] *Ibid.,* 253.

[40] *Ibid.,* 255.

[41] Jessie Folsom Stockbridge, "Turntable at Five Points," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Dec. 17, 1933.

[42] Paul Hinde, "How Ponce de Leon Springs Got Its Name," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Jan. 27, 1924.

[43] *Ibid.*

[44] John M. Armistead (1827-1908) married Patience Todd, daughter of Richard C. Todd.

[45] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 9, 1871.

[46] Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *loc. cit.,* 199; King, "Atlanta's First Car Barn," *loc. cit.,* 253-255.

[47] King, "Atlanta's First Car Barn," *loc. cit.,* 253.

[48] Ed L. Grant, "When Town Ball Was The Big Game Here," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* March 9, 1924; "Garrett's Necrology."

[49] Grant, "When Town Ball Was The Big Game Here," *loc. cit.*

[50] *Ibid.*

[51] *Ibid.*

[52] Reprinted in *De Kalb New Era,* June 2, 1921.

[53] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's Churches and Who Built Them," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 2, 1936.

[54] Henry B. Scott, *The Romance of Atlanta Realty,* (Atlanta, 1921), 8.

[55] *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 12, 1872.

[56] Reed, *Atlanta,* 426; *City Directory,* 1881.

[57] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 2, 1934; "Garrett's Necrology;" City directories, 1874-1880.

[58] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 2, 1934.

[59] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology;" city directories, various dates.

[60] Raymond B. Nixon, *Henry W. Grady, Spokesman of the New South* (New York, 1943), 95. Hereafter cited as Nixon, *Henry W. Grady.*

[61] *Ibid.,* 96.

[62] *Ibid.,* 97; Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 45; "Garrett's Necrology."

[63] Nixon, *Henry W. Grady,* 91.

[64] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 45; Reed, *Atlanta,* 411.

[65] Frank K. Boland, M.D., "Early History of Medicine in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XXXIII (Oct., 1940), 249-250.

[66] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 31, 1872.

[67] *Ga. Laws,* 1872, p. 351.

[68] *City Directory,* 1874, p. 316.

[69] "Garrett's Necrology."

CHAPTER 51

1873

LOCAL voters in the municipal election of 1873, held on December 4, 1872, had a choice of two tickets. The "Democratic Municipal Ticket" was headed, as candidate for mayor, by Judge Cicero C. Hammock. The "Independent Ticket" by Colonel T. Stobo Farrow.[1]

Judge Hammock, a former judge of the Inferior Court of Oglethorpe County, was born in Walton County in 1823, and in early manhood saw service in the Mexican War. Later, he served as an officer in the Confederate army, and at the war's end settled in Atlanta where he became a commission merchant and real estate agent.[2]

Colonel Farrow was born and reared in South Carolina; was educated at South Carolina College, and from 1854 to 1857 was editor and proprietor of a Democratic paper at Spartanburg. For two years he served in the Confederate army and rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel of the 13th South Carolina Regiment. Before the war ended he was wounded in Virginia. After the war Colonel Farrow took an active part in the organization of the Democratic party in South Carolina. About 1868 he moved to Atlanta and established himself in the practice of law.[3]

When the smoke of battle had died away on election day, Judge Hammock emerged as the new mayor by a majority of 792 votes.[4] The new Council, elected at the same time, was composed of the following good citizens—all Democrats:

First Ward—John F. Morris and William H. Brotherton.
Second Ward—Nicholas A. McLendon and Green T. Dodd.
Third Ward—Robert C. Young and David A. Beatie.
Fourth Ward—John H. Mescalin and John W. Sparks.
Fifth Ward—Frank P. Rice and John H. Goldsmith.
Sixth Ward—John M. Boring and Daniel A. McDuffie.
Seventh Ward—John C. McMillan and Jeptha N. Langston.[5]

The ministerial officers for 1873 were: clerk, Frank T. Ryan; treasurer, J. W. Goldsmith; marshal, John Thomas; attorney, William T. Newman; auditor and recorder, D. F. Hammond; engineer, William B. Bass; tax receiver and collector, James H. Franklin; sexton, John Connolly; hall-keeper, Patrick Fitzgibbon; street overseer, Martin Daly; first lieutenant of police, F. J. Bomar; second lieutenant of police, W. H. Holcombe; chairman, board of health, Dr. Charles Pinkney.[6]

The time-honored police organization of Atlanta, consisting primarily of a marshal and deputies of varying numbers, finally gave way in 1873 to a regularly constituted uniformed police force, headed by a chief and governed by a board of police commissioners.[7]. The city had simply outgrown what was basically a frontier-type law enforcement agency.

Atlanta's first board of police commissioners was composed of Green T. Dodd, chairman; John Morris, Michael Mahoney, J. W. Goldsmith and Zack Smith. In July, 1873, Thomas Jones was chosen chief of police over a force of 26 men. A tin-helmet, Prince-Albert coat uniform was adopted. Indeed, it was not until the uniformed force went on the streets that the old-fashioned custom of calling the hours of the night was discarded. In 1873 the call "twelve o'clock and all's well" ceased to float over the sleeping city.[8]

Shortly after the new police force was organized a suitable headquarters building was erected. This narrow three-story brick building, located only a stone's throw from Atlanta's first calaboose, was situated on the west side of Pryor Street between Alabama and Hunter, on the northwest corner of Kenny's Alley. It served until the present, since remodeled, police station was built on Decatur Street in 1893.[9].

In the election for Fulton County officers to serve during 1873 and 1874, few changes were made. Angus M. Perkerson succeeded James O. Harris as sheriff and Benjamin F. Walker succeeded W. A. Hardin as surveyor. William Richard Venable, clerk of the superior court since 1862, died on September 5, 1873, and James D. Collins, a son of pioneer merchant James A. Collins, was elected to fill the vacancy on October 6th.[10]

The deceased officer, Mr. Venable, was one of the pioneer citizens of Atlanta, having come here about 1848 from his native Jackson County. His first job in the city was as bookkeeper for cotton merchant A. B. Forsyth. After other mercantile activities he was first elected clerk of the superior court in 1856, the second man to hold the office. Except for one intervening term, he had held the office ever since. In 1850 he was married to Miss Cornelia Hoyt, sister of Judge S. B. Hoyt, by whom he had nine children. Among the sons were the late William H. and Samuel H. Venable, of Atlanta, owners of Stone Mountain.[11]

In De Kalb County, on January 3, 1873, John B. Steward succeeded W. R. Webster as ordinary; John Baxter succeeded James Hunter as sheriff; Crawford W. Johnson succeeded I. N. Nash as receiver of tax returns, and Philip B. McCurdy succeeded H. V. Bayne as tax collector.[12]

Samuel J. Winn, of Gwinnett County, was elected to the state legislature for the 1873-1874 term, representing the Thirty-fourth District, including De Kalb County. He succeeded Milton A. Candler. George Hillyer, of Atlanta, was re-elected senator for the Thirty-fifth, including Fulton County, for the same term.[13]

To the lower branch of the House, De Kalb County sent pioneer citizen Samuel C. Masters in 1873. The Messrs. Clark Howell, William L. Calhoun and Edward F. Hoge took their seats for Fulton at the same time.[14]

A political highlight of 1873 was the election of General John B. Gordon of Kirkwood, then president of the Southern Life Insurance Company, to the United States Senate from Georgia.

The General had stiff opposition, but the unqualified support of young Henry W. Grady, editor of the *Atlanta Herald,* and of the *Atlanta Constitution.* The opposition was composed of two of Georgia's most noted sons, Alexander H. Stephens and Benjamin H. Hill; and two lesser lights, A. T. Akerman and Herbert Fielder.[15]

In those days senators and representatives were not elected by popular vote, but by the legislature. On the first ballot, Gordon polled 84 votes to 71 for Stephens and 35 for Hill. On the fourth ballot Hill withdrew, and on the fifth Gordon received a clear majority—112 to 86.[16]

Thus Gordon achieved his first political victory by decisively beating two of Georgia's and the Old South's strongest men. This fact in itself meant the beginning of a new era for Georgia and the South. It also meant that the new senator, unimpeded by old political entanglements, could launch forth into new fields of progress and political endeavor. Anent Gordon's victory, the *Atlanta Constitution* noted: "General Gordon is a practical man, in full sympathy with the practical progress of the age, and we look for large things from him in the United States Senate. . . . We congratulate the party, the victor, the country on the result."[17]

Senator Gordon was sworn in on March 11, 1873. For two weeks he was not heard. Then, on March 25th, Vice-President Henry Wilson called on Gordon to preside over the Senate in his absence. As Senator Gordon advanced and took the chair, the crowd in the galleries applauded loudly, for this was the first time since the war that an ex-Confederate, whether Democrat or Radical, had been accorded this honor.[18]

Gordon's career in the Senate, extending to 1880, was notable for his constant effort to promote a better feeling between the two sections, lately so hostile; though he was ever ready to defend in stormy and eloquent terms the people for whom he stood.[19]

Postmaster James L. Dunning was responsible, in 1873, for two signal innovations in Atlanta, free mail delivery and, as a requisite thereto, a house numbering system. Indeed, up to this time only a few of the business houses had been numbered, and they in haphazard fashion. On May 23rd, Dunning sent a communication to council in favor of a numbering plan. A committee on the subject reported favorably, and suggested the following plan:[20]

"That the dwellings or stores, where persons were then doing business, should be numbered in accordance with the position they occupied, and all vacant property in the central portion of the city, having a front of 25 feet, should be considered as numbered, although no number appeared on the premises. After leaving the business section, 50 feet should constitute a front, and lots of that size should be numbered according to the limits." The intersection of Whitehall and Peachtree streets was to be the center of the city, from which point the numbering should commence. Peachtree and Whitehall streets were numbered from the railroad, odd numbers on the right and even numbers on the left. Decatur and Marietta streets were numbered similarly, beginning at Peachtree.[21] Streets running east and west from Peachtree and Whitehall, and north and south from Decatur and Marietta, were numbered similarly—beginning on the right with number one, and on the left with number two.[22]

As the free delivery system was to go into operation in July, it was decided to institute the house-numbering plan at once. Sealed bids were opened May 23rd, and on May 30th a contract was awarded to William S. Bradbury, a local painter, to number all the houses in Atlanta with black-enameled tin plate signs for $720.[23]

On July 1, 1873, five carriers were authorized for the delivery of the mails throughout the city. The first letter was delivered by carrier Charles V. Tutwiler to John C. Hallman, of the wholesale grocery firm of Nunnally, Hallman and Company, 55 Peachtree Street. The working hours of these early Atlanta postmen, of whom the late Olin C. Fuller, long clerk of the U. S. Circuit Court, was one, were long and arduous. They would report at 5 A.M. and often deliver mail by lantern light as late as 8 P.M. In addition to Postmaster Dunning and the five new carriers, personnel of the office at this time included six clerks. Annual receipts were approximately $45,000.[24]

One of the many manifestations of the spirit of cooperation among the citizens of Atlanta, engendered by war and reconstruction, was a series of carnivals held between 1873 and 1881—events somewhat akin to Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

About 1872 a group of prominent men banded together in a secret order which they called the Mystic Brotherhood. Sensing the impulse of the community to express its rejoicing in the dawn of a better day, and realizing the benign and enlivening effect of a season given over to fun and frolic in a friendly mingling together of the people, the Mystic Brotherhood planned a celebration for January, 1873, which proved to be the first of an annual series.[25]

Plans for the event were announced in the local papers on January 1, 1873. There was to be a carnival for the general public culminating in a masque ball in the evening at the New Kimball House. Interest was aroused in the coming celebration by accounts of the ancient historical *Twelfth Night* revels in "Merrie England," and it was assured that no pains or expense would be spared to make a success of the undertaking.[26]

The carnival came off as arranged on January 6th with a magnificent display of midnight revelers amidst bonfires, illuminations and fireworks. Rex was described in contemporary articles as sitting in his royal chariot over which hung a silver pavilion, accompanied by two magicians. The chariot was illuminated by two large headlights and was followed by the Prince Mot decked in royal splendor with his bodyguard; next his Satanic Majesty and Crew, followed by banners of merchants, and non-member revelers under command of the Lords of the Unattached, and many brilliant advertising transparancies. After the procession, the revelers repaired to the banquet hall of the Kimball House, dispersing at midnight.[27]

Although the weather was very cold and the streets muddy and sloppy, the crowd reached far into the thousands from all walks of life. Windows and verandahs were full of lookers-on and there was much blowing of horns and general merriment. The carnival was pronounced a brilliant success by the local press.[28]

The event did not merit the unqualified approval of diarist S. P. Richards. He wrote, on January 6th:

> "This is Carnival night in Atlanta. 'King Rex' is parading the streets and the city is illuminated. Our street [Washington] is lighted somewhat as the procession was to come along but I don't think they will. (And they did not, the stiff mud of our street was too much for the strength of their horses.) We are told that Rex is Col. [Logan E.] Bleckley, a very tall, dignified and eminent lawyer of our city. They promise a better thing of it next year, and no doubt it will be more creditable then."

The carnival of January, 1874, was indeed more elaborate than the first effort. General Lucius J. Gartrell impersonated Rex, while Mrs. Joseph Thompson, Jr., was designated Queen. The parade was followed by a brilliant ball at DeGives' Opera House.[29]

Mr. Richards noted the event on January 6, 1874:

> "The Atlanta 'Mardi Gras' came off today and had a large procession and considerable fun although the rain came down steadily and the streets were one slush. At night they had a large Mask Ball—I didn't go."

On August 26, 1873, the *Constitution* commented upon the completion of a great work:

"The Air-Line Railroad Done.

"Our special telegram from Greenville, South Carolina, brings the glad news that the Air-Line Railroad is at last finished. The track is all laid. The last spike is driven. The unbroken iron rail links Atlanta to Charlotte over the river, through the mountains and mid the valleys of the beautiful and fertile country that lies between here and there in the three States of Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

"Glory enough is it for one day. It is the consummation of a grand railway enterprise, and we believe it is to be fraught with immeasurable benefit to Atlanta."

The single-track Atlanta & Richmond Air-Line Railroad was indeed completed. Conceived in 1856 by Jonathan Norcross and other pioneer Atlantans, the road had had a checkered career. Construction hardly began, when the war intervened and completely halted the work. When resumed however, after the conflict, building of the line proceeded uninterruptedly. The new railroad, following the southern divide of the Chattahoochee Basin northeastward, gave Atlanta through connections with the northern Piedmont and Washington.

Passenger service on the Air-Line, prior to September 5, 1873, extended out of Atlanta only as far as Toccoa. On that date, however, through service to and from Charlotte was established upon the following schedule:

"DAY PASSENGER TRAIN—OUTWARD

Leave Atlanta	7:45 A.M.
Arrive at Charlotte	2:30 A.M.

DAY PASSENGER TRAIN—INWARD

Leave Charlotte	4:30 A.M.
Arrive at Atlanta	11:15 P.M."[30]

Atlanta, child of the iron horse, now had five main-line railroads.

While some of the eastern railroads were experimenting with coal instead of wood as locomotive fuel as early as 1853,[31] it was not until 1872 that any of the roads entering Atlanta became seriously interested in the subject. Wood was still king in local locomotive fireboxes.

In his annual report, dated January 1, 1873, President Joseph E. Brown of the Western & Atlantic, explored the subject. He said:

"While I am reluctant to make a change from the burning of wood to coal, which may throw many of our citizens, who have been in the habit of furnishing wood to the road, temporarily out of employment, I entertain no doubt that it will be much cheaper to the road if we were to burn coal in our engines to the entire exclusion of wood. I believe it is a well established fact, that a ton of good coal will supply as much steam as one and a half cords of the best oak wood. Our wood costs us when ready for the engine, two dollars and fifty cents per cord. We can engage a constant and abundant supply of coal, delivered in Chattanooga at three dollars per ton. This shows at once that coal is much cheaper than wood, but in addition to this, we must not forget that it is necessary to keep thirty or forty thousand cords of wood upon the road all the time in order that we may have it seasoned and dry, ready for the engines. This is worth say $80,000. The interest on this is lost all the while to the Company, while the coal is ready for use immediately upon delivery. Again, the engine running with coal need not make more than one stop between Atlanta and Chattanooga. All the balance of the time consumed by the wood burning engine in taking on supplies may be consumed by the coal burner in running, which enables her to make the same scheduled time at a much less rapid speed, and thereby save much of the wear both to the track and to the machinery.

"In view of these considerations, I thought it wise to order three of our new engines to be made coal burners, and to direct one or two of those we now have, to be altered to burn coal, that we might make the experiment, and I have directed that a careful account be kept of the coal burners, as compared with the wood burners, and I entertain no doubt that the result will be very decidedly in favor of coal."[32]

By January 1, 1875, thirty-one W. & A. engines, out of a total of fifty-four, were coal burners.[33] Wood was toppling from the throne as a prime mover of locomotive driving wheels.

One of the outstanding Atlanta structures produced by the great building boom of the early 1870's was the Republic Block. In February, 1871, William Goodnow, a manager of the Republic Life Insurance Company of Chicago, came to Atlanta with a view to the establishment of a local branch office. After a short time the branch was opened in a first floor front office of the Kimball House. Sitting in his office day after day, Mr. Goodnow observed the large open space across the street, formerly a public park, and finally conceived the idea of erecting on Pryor Street opposite the Kimball House, and extending from Decatur Street to Railroad Avenue, now Wall Street, a handsome block of business buildings.[34]

With William Goodnow, to conceive was to execute. He soon ascertained who owned the lots, and at once proposed to erect a handsome building, and proffered a loan from his company. The Republic Block was the result. The masonry work was done by Messrs. Healey, Berry & Co., and T. M. Castleberry; the carpentry by Messrs. J. C. Peck & Co., and Longley & Robinson; the iron work by W. S. Withers; the cornice and roofing by Messrs. Hunnicutt & Bellingrath, Atlanta, and Joseph Ourback, Chattanooga, and the terra cotta work by Messrs. Pelligrini & Georgi.[35]

Original tenants of the Republic Block, as of February 1, 1873, were Tommey, Stewart & Beck, hardware merchants (predecessors of Beck & Gregg); George Sharp, Jr., diamond merchant; Parkins & Allen, architects; Peter A. Farrington, jeweler; O'Connor & Robinson, wholesale millinery; Hon. O. A. Lochrane, attorney-at-law; Knights Templar, Coeur De Leon Commandery; Crane, Boylston & Co., wholesale dry goods; the Citizen's Bank of Georgia; the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; Markham & Holderness, wholesale boots and shoes; R. P. S. Kimbro & Co., wholesale ready-made clothing; Jordan, Howard & Haralson, wholesale tobacco and cigars; M. C. & J. F. Kiser, wholesale dry goods; Wilson J. Ballard, furnished sleeping apartments, and the Republic Life Insurance Company.[36] For many years the Republic Block remained as one of Atlanta's leading commercial structures. In fact a small unit of the Block yet stands, numbered 34 Pryor Street, SW., and occupied by the Jake H. Wilensky Leather Company, Inc.

One of Atlanta's oldest business establishments, The SSS Company, has as its stock in trade, a patent medicine that has watched new rivals come and go for more than 130 years. The tonic produced by this company, so legend has it, was first brewed by Creek Indians. A Captain Dennard, of Perry, Georgia, plantation and slave owner, is known as the first man to bottle it, he having obtained the recipe from the Creeks and utilized the medicine as a standard prescription for his slaves as an aid to digestion.[37]

Some years later Charles T. Swift (1846-1890), a native of Morgan County, but later of Houston County, acquired the formula from Captain Dennard and formed a partnership with Colonel H. J. Lamar, of Macon. In 1873 they moved the business to Atlanta because of better railroad facilities. The old Swift home, incidentally, forms the present entrance to Piedmont Hospital on Capitol Avenue.[38]

The present mellow-looking old brick home of the company, at the northeast corner of Butler and Hunter streets was erected in 1879. The atmosphere is both old and new about the lofty old rooms and larger cellars. In the chief cellar, for example, is a hand-made steam engine, more than 60 years old, which, still running smoothly, provides all necessary power for the plant.

The ingredients of SSS, roots and herbs, with improvements, remain basically the same as when they were shipped to ailing Southern belles and beaus by stagecoach. Descendants of the Swift and Lamar families still control the company.[39]

Atlanta added to its list of banks in 1873, when, on April 1, the Bank of the State of Georgia was organized. The original directors were Francis M. Coker, L. P. Grant, A. C. Wyly, Edwin W. Marsh, Thomas G. Healey, Robert F. Maddox, John Jones, James H. Callaway and W. W. Bell.[40]

The moving spirit of this bank was its first president, Francis M. Coker (1827-1905), a native of Elbert County, Georgia, who moved to Atlanta in February, 1873, after having founded, in 1870, the first bank in southwest Georgia, the Bank of Americus. Mr. Coker headed the Bank of the State of Georgia, which in 1895 became the Coker Banking Company, until his death, at which time he was succeeded by his son, F. M. Coker, Jr. For the first few years of its existence the bank was quartered at the southwest corner of Decatur and Pryor streets. When Thomas G. Healey built the original Healey Building in 1877, on the present site of the William-Oliver Building, the bank was moved to the first floor, facing both Marietta and Peachtree streets. In 1884, it was moved to 49 Loyd (Central Avenue) Street, where it remained until its liquidation a few years after the death of F. M. Coker, Jr., in 1917.[41]

The flush times of the early 1870's came to an abrupt end in the autumn of 1873. The enormous cost of the late war, the excessive railroad building, inflated credit and fluctuating currency, the sinking of capital in opening new farming lands and in readjusting manufacturers to new conditions resulted in the panic of 1873. It was precipitated by the failure, on September 18th, of Jay Cooke, of Philadelphia, financier of the Northern Pacific Railway.

For over five years the nation underwent a drastic financial purge. Railway building almost ceased.[42] Indeed, as late as 1877, over 18% of the railway mileage of the nation was in receivership. The iron industry was prostrated, and mercantile failures for four years amounted to $775,000,000. At the close of the period there was a replacement of partnerships and individual businesses by corporations, but in the interval political unrest was in the foreground.

The panic swept like a whirlwind over Atlanta. Building operations came to a virtual standstill. Real estate prices tumbled and business stagnated. Of course this state of affairs caused general damage and widespread suffering; but to the great credit of Atlanta, and of the sound foundation of its business prosperity, few large houses were seriously affected, and though the crash of business houses and banks resounded throughout the land, not a single bank in Atlanta fell, though there was a run on all of them.[43]

It is true that the James Bank suspended, but the suspension was only temporary. With his characteristic judgment and decision, Mr. James immediately threw a hundred thousand dollars of his real estate upon the market, which, though sold under the auctioneer's hammer at a great sacrifice, furnished him ready money, and tended to restore him to public confidence. In less than sixty days his bank had weathered the storm.[44]

Probably the two most notable local business failures resulting from the panic of 1873 were those of John R. "Jack" Wallace and Alvin K. Seago.

Up to that time Jack Wallace was the biggest real estate operator ever to do business in Fulton County. He owned literally hundreds of parcels of land, but as the panic spread he went under. So far as he was able he settled his debts by surrendering the titles to town lots to his creditors, but when his limit was reached and he could do no more, he boarded a train for Sherman, Texas, in 1876. His departure naturally brought great dissatisfaction to his unsatisfied creditors, and proceedings were instituted to bring him back to Georgia. After a time he did return, in the custody of the sheriff of Grayson County, Texas. Here he signed bond one night at Dodd's Corner (northwest corner Pryor and Alabama streets), was liberated, and returned to Texas. The case against Wallace was eventually nolle prossed. He soon built up another fortune in the hardware business at Sherman, in which place he died in 1895. Many a chain of title to lots in the city of Atlanta and in Fulton County bears the name of John R. Wallace, the great real estate operator of early post-bellum Atlanta.[45]

A. K. Seago was born in South Carolina in 1831 and came to Atlanta via the North Georgia mountains in 1852. Prior to 1859 he established a grocery and commission business, with Albert N. Abbott as a partner, at the northeast corner of Forsyth and Mitchell streets. Abbott died in 1862, and after the war Seago continued alone at the same location. His business methods and popularity enabled him to build up a tremendous country trade. Not long after the war, in response to a query by the late Colonel A. J. West, as to how he attained such success, Seago replied: "My lad, I make it a rule to remember the given name of every farmer who trades with me, and the minute he enters my store, I put out my hand and at the same time put out his given name. That makes the farmer think someone in town likes him well enough to remember him like his home folks. And afterward I found that that very trick turned many a good trade for me."[46]

During his prosperous days A. K. Seago was both civic minded and charitable, the principal object of his beneficence having been the First Baptist Church, at Walton and Forsyth streets, of which he was a devout member. His business failure came like a clap of thunder out of a clear sky. No one had associated Seago with failure, and many were the expressions of sympathy from his friends. While he strove to redeem something from the wreck, his efforts proved unavailing, and finally, in 1876, he moved to New Orleans where he began anew. As time passed Atlantans who visited New Orleans brought back stories of the success there, of the former Atlanta commercial lion, for the palatial Seago home in New Orleans was thrown open to many of these visitors. But A. K. Seago never returned to Atlanta in life. That trip came after he died, on June 28, 1910, when his body was laid to rest in Oakland Cemetery beside that of his wife who predeceased him by five years.[47]

On December 10, 1873, more than four years after its cornerstone was laid, the completed Church of the Immaculate Conception was dedicated in the presence of a vast throng by the Rev. Father Hamilton, of Augusta.[48]

The rock work on the building was done by Patrick Lynch; the brick work by Healey, Berry & Hayden, the carpentry by Longley & Robinson, and the plastering and ornamental work by John H. George. Total cost was between $75,000 and $80,000.[49]

The glass in the transept windows cost $226 each. The glass in the triple window facing Hunter Street was given by John Ryan, and in the wheel window by Arthur Connolly. That in the window of the other transept was given by Mrs. M. A. Dougherty and family, and that in the wheel window by John Connolly. The glass in the window lighting the organ loft and fronting Loyd Street, was given by the Sodality of St. Joseph's. Richard Byrnes, Thomas Byrnes, M. Bloomfield, A. T. Finney, M. Mahoney, M. Lynch, Owen Lynch, John Stephens, P. H. O'Neil and Henry Fleck, each gave the glass for a window, their names being inscribed upon the glass.[50]

The old church has changed little since its dedication. Still to be seen are the 14 fine oil paintings representing the Stations of the Cross, the heavy massive columns in the basement of the church that were blasted into shape because they were too hard to be chisled into shape, and the fine carved white marble altar. The original stained glass windows remain.

The recently established Boys' and Girls' High Schools graduated their first classes in 1873, albeit the classes were small. Boys' High students who completed the full course that year were:

Marion Erwin
Frank Harris
Peter John Schumann
Gustavus John Orr
Stephen Andrew Ryan[51]

The Girls' High class was larger. It was composed of:

Lena Burckhardt
Etta McDonald
Julia Anna Dodson
Fannie Ophelia Dunlap
Delia Bradley Fay
Maude Celestia Wilson
Henrietta Hirschfield
Sallie Georgia Nathans
Jeannie Rikeman Ponce
Purilla Rosalie Reid
Cora Belestia Stroud
Tallulah Harmon.[52]

Meanwhile, in July, 1873, the people of Decatur met for considering the subject of building a schoolhouse in that town, W. L. Goldsmith presided and T. N. Wilson acted as secretary. Those present gave evidence that they were fully alive to the necessity and importance of public schools by subscribing $1200 on the spot. They also proposed to raise $3000 with which to erect a suitable building. A start had been made for public schools in old De Kalb.[53]

The Atlanta area lost its usual quota of good citizens to the grim reaper during 1873.

Dr. James Corbin Avary, for the last 20 years of his life an esteemed physician and resident of De Kalb County, died March 18th, aged 55, and is buried in the Decatur Cemetery. He was born in Columbia County, Georgia, and was the father of several children, including the late Drs. James C. Avary, Jr., and Moody B. Avary, and the late Robert Lee Avary, all of Atlanta.[54]

The Rev. John S. Wilson, patriarch of the Presbyterian Church in both Decatur and Atlanta, was born in Pendleton District, South Carolina, January 4, 1796, and died in Atlanta, March 27, 1873, of a stroke of paralysis. He had resided in the Atlanta area since 1824, at which time he settled in Lawrenceville. From 1844 to 1859 he lived in Decatur, and for the remainder of his life in Atlanta. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.[55]

James Oliver Powell, son of pioneer physician Dr. Chapman Powell, died at his residence near Decatur on April 3rd, age 46. He had previously served as Sheriff of De Kalb; was a good citizen, and is buried in the Decatur Cemetery. Colonel Joseph Pitts, another De Kalb pioneer, and a Presbyterian elder for 24 years, died August 23rd, age 78. He is buried under a substantial marker in the Clifton Methodist Churchyard.[56]

Two well known Atlantans, Richard M. Wall and Owen Lynch, met accidental deaths during the year. Dick Wall, a popular young man and connected with the wholesale wine and liquor house of Clayton and Webb, attended the Hibernian picnic at Iceville (Bolton) on May 13th. On the return trip, aboard the Hibernian excursion train, he was sitting on the iron railing upon the rear platform of the last coach. As the train passed the Bellwood water tank he lost his balance and fell to the track. Four freight cars, coupled behind the coach, ran over and killed him instantly. He is buried in Oakland.[57]

Owen Lynch, one of the oldest and best-known Irish citizens of Atlanta, and for some 15 years general bookkeeper for the W. & A. R. R., was run over and killed by a Central Railroad switch engine near the Broad Street bridge on November 21st. That night the locomotive on the northbound W. & A. passenger train was draped in mourning. The cortege attending his remains to Oakland Cemetery was perhaps the longest yet seen in Atlanta.[58]

On Monday, July 7, 1873, a young man of 21, having completed service as an apprentice druggist left Cartersville, Georgia, to seek his fortune in Atlanta. The ex-Carroll County farm boy arrived with $1.75 in his pocket, and immediately began to walk the streets looking for a job. At 9 P.M., he found one in the drug store of George J. Howard on Peachtree Street around the corner from the Kimball House. He worked that night until midnight, when the store closed. Asa G. Candler was not only destined to marry his employer's daughter, Lucy, but to become Atlanta's wealthiest citizen and a tower of strength in the commercial, religious and educational growth of the city of his adoption.[59]

A correspondent of *Scribner's Monthly* having visited Atlanta in 1873, summed up his impressions of the city in the following language:

> "But few traces of the war are now left in Atlanta. The residence streets have a smart, new air; many fine houses have been recently built, and their Northern architecture and trim gardens afford a pleasant surprise after the tumble-down, unpainted towns of which there are so many in the South. It [Atlanta] is a new, vigorous, awkwardly alert city, in which there is little that is distinctly Southern.[60]

NOTES—CHAPTER 51

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 4, 1872.

[2] "Garrett's Necrology."

[3] *Alanta Constitution,* Dec. 4, 1872.

[4] *Ibid.* December 5, 1872.

[5] Reed, *Atlanta,* 258-259.

[6] *Ibid.,* 259.

[7] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 20, 1932.

[8] *Ibid.;* "One Policeman Kept Order 75 Years Ago," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* 1923.

[9] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Atlanta's First Jail Break," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 11, 1934; *Hopkin's Atlas,* Plate A.

[10] Commission Book, Department of Archives and History. "Garrett's Necrology."

[11] "Garrett's Necrology."

[12] Commission Book, Department of Archives and History.

[13] Blair, *Official Register,* 1927, pp. 496-497.

[14] *Ibid.,* 1925, pp. 321, 337.

[15] Allen P. Tankersley, "John B. Gordon," *loc. cit.,* 390-392.

[16] *Ibid.,* 394-395.

[17] *Ibid.,* 395.

[18] *Ibid.,* 396.

[19] Northern, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia,* III, 513.

[20] Reed, *Atlanta,* 259.

[21] While the house numbering system of 1873 has long since been outmoded, the custom still prevails of odd numbers on the right, and even on the left, from the beginning of each street.

[22] Reed, *Atlanta,* 259.

[23] *Ibid.,* 260.

[24] Edward K. Large, "The Phenomenal Growth of a Village Post Office," *The City Builder,* Feb., 1926.

[25] Marian Hillyer Woolf, "Atlanta's Twelfth Night Carnivals and Mystic Owl Celebrations," *A.H.B.,* XVIII (July, 1939), 147.

[26] *Ibid.,* 148.

[27] *Ibid.,* 149-150.

[28] *Ibid.,* 150.

[29] *Ibid.,* 150-151.

[30] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 6, 1873.

[31] George H. Burgess and Miles C. Kennedy, *Centennial History of The Pennsylvania Railroad Company* (Philadelphia, 1949), 713.

[32] Minutes W. & A. R. R. Co., 1873, pp. 98-99.

[33] *Ibid.,* 164.

[34] *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 1, 1873.

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] Hugh Park, "Around Town," *Atlanta Journal,* Apr. 12, 1951.

[38] *Ibid.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[39] Park, "Around Town," *loc. cit.*

[40] Reed, *Atlanta,* 427.

[41] *Ibid.,* part II, 35; "Garrett's Necrology;" city directories, 1874-1921.

[42] It was not until 1881 that Atlanta secured another line.

[43] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 72.

[44] *Ibid.,* 72-73.

[45] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 26, 1890; "Garrett's Necrology."

[46] "Garrett's Necrology;" Ed C. Bruffey, "Recent Death of Seago Recalls Notable Career," *Atlanta Constitution,* July 4, 1910.

[47] Bruffey, "Seago," *loc. cit.;* "Garrett's Necrology."

[48] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 11, 1873.

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] *Ibid.*

[51] *Annual Reports,* Atlanta, 1893, p. 667.

[52] *Ibid.,* 675.

[53] *De Kalb New Era,* Apr. 28, 1921.

[54] "Garrett's Necrology."

[55] *Ibid.*

[56] *Ibid.*

[57] *Ibid.*

[58] *Ibid.*

[59] Charles Howard Candler, *Asa Griggs Candler* (Emory University, Ga., 1950) 63-64.

[60] C. W. Tebeau, "Visitors' Views of Georgia Politics and Life, 1865-1880," *G.H.Q.,* (March, 1942), 5-6.

CHAPTER 52

1874

THE municipal election of December 3, 1873, at which a mayor and council for 1874 were selected, was one of the quietest on record. The vote was light and but little interest was manifested. Samuel B. Spencer, the Democratic candidate, had no opposition and polled a total of 798 votes.[1]

The new chief executive, Mr. Spencer, was born in Liberty County, Georgia. After graduation from Oglethorpe College in 1848, he married and taught school in Greene County for 2 years. He then moved to Lumpkin County, and continued as a pedagogue until 1854 when he began the practice of law in Thomasville. After service as a major in the Confederate Army, he came to Atlanta and began practice in 1870.[2]

Members of council, elected to serve with Mayor Spencer were:

First Ward, Aaron Haas and John B. Goodwin.
Second Ward, John Keely and William D. Ellis.
Third Ward, James G. Kelley and Robert C. Young.
Fourth Ward, John H. Flynn and Julius C. Watkins.
Fifth Ward, John H. Goldsmith and Moses T. Simmons.
Sixth Ward, Daniel A. McDuffie.
Seventh Ward, Jeptha N. Langston and John C. McMillan.[3]

Ministerial officers, elected in January, 1874, were: Frank T. Ryan, clerk; J. W. Goldsmith, treasurer; James O. Harris, marshal; Thomas G. Jones, first deputy marshal; W. H. Holcombe, second deputy marshal; W. T. Newman, attorney; John T. Pendleton, auditor and recorder; Max V. D. Corput, city engineer; J. A. Anderson, tax receiver and collector; John Connolly, sexton; Dr. E. J. Roach, chairman, board of health; Martin Daly, street overseer; Timothy C. Murphy, first lieutenant of police; J. O. Simmons, second lieutenant of police, and H. H. Newton, third lieutenant of police.[4]

Total assets of the city in the depression year of 1874, amounted to $1,128,200, divided as follows:[5]

Gas stock	$ 96,200
Lots in the city (Oakland) cemetery	40,000
Notes held by the city	12,000
Magazine property	10,000
Fair grounds	75,000
City hall and grounds	100,000
Station house and real estate	30,000
Mules, carts, etc.	5,000
Railroad stocks	600,000
School buildings and grounds	60,000
Vacant lot near car shed	100,000

Atlanta's original 1847 charter had often been amended, but never thoroughly revised. The panic of 1873 highlighted an urgent need, not for revision, but for a new charter more suited to the times. Indeed, during this period of financial stringency the balance in the treasury was insufficient to meet the interest due on the city's debts, and more loans had to be negotiated. When the unsound character of such financing caused interest rates to reach a peak of 18% on small loans, civic leaders were stirred to the action which resulted in the adoption of the charter of 1874.[6]

A petition signed by J. H. Callaway, J. A. Hayden, Amos Fox, and some 150 other citizens, urging the adoption of a new charter, was read before council on November 1, 1873. The petition was referred to a special committee, which in turn recommended the appointment of 49 citizens, seven from each of the seven wards. "The committee of forty-nine" was appointed, and it included such men as L. P. Grant, G. W. Adair, George Hillyer, N. L. Angier, J. P. Logan, L. J. Gartrell, John H. Flynn, John L. Hopkins, N. J. Hammond, John H. James, Anthony Murphy, W. G. Gramling, L. E. Bleckley, J. A. Richardson, W. B. Cox and John T. Grant.[7]

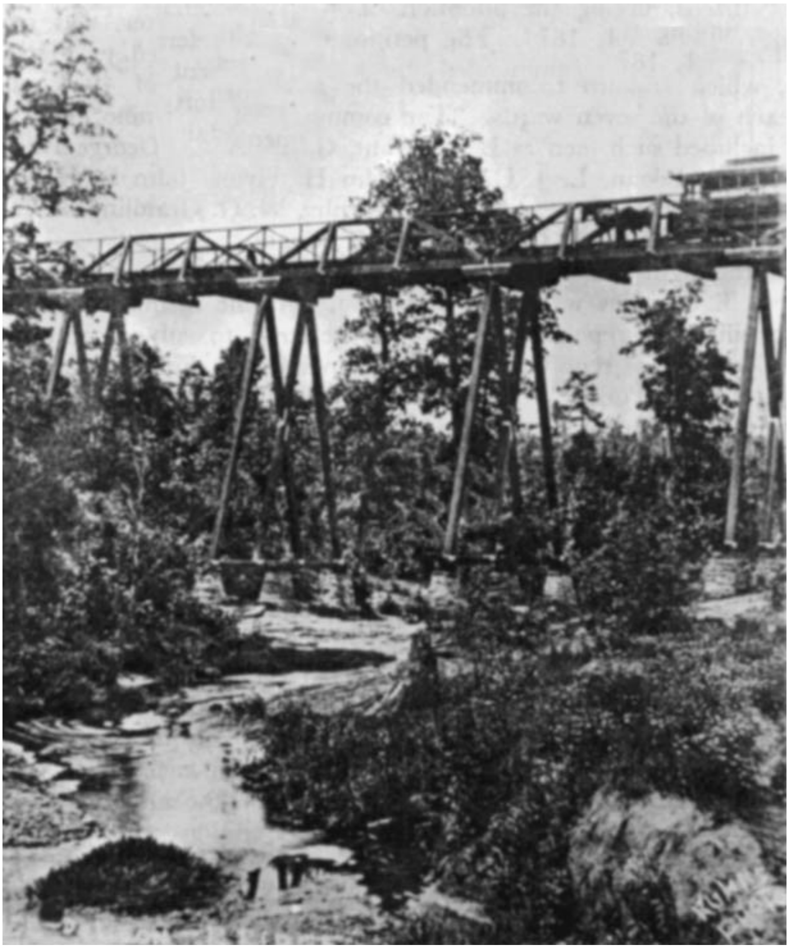
On the night of November 18, 1873, this committee met at the Recorder's room. L. E. Bleckley was made chairman, and one member from each ward was appointed to report subjects to be referred to sub-committees of three each. The subjects reported were City Government, Finance, Elections, Sanitary Regulations, Police, Water Works, Public Schools, and Streets, all of which were referred to separate sub-committees. A consolidated report was finally submitted and adopted. The ensuing Legislature passed the charter thus revised, and it was approved by the Governor on February 28, 1874.[8]

The charter of 1874 was a landmark in local municipal reform. It embodied a much stronger definition of powers, although it preserved the fundamental structure of the city government. A significant change was the reorganization of council into a bicameral body. In addition to two councilmen elected from each ward, three aldermen were elected from the city at large for three year terms, one being elected each year. The alderman serving his last year acted as mayor pro-tem and as presiding officer of the general council. The bicameral council was created principally to safeguard the treasury by having the two bodies act as a check upon each other when voting upon ordinances concerning municipal finance. On the subject of finances, the two bodies acted separately. On all other resolutions and ordinances they acted together.[9]

The mayor emerged as a real factor in city government by virtue of the new charter, for it conferred upon him the right of veto and revision. For the first time he was made responsible, not only for the execution of all city laws but charged with the duty of revising such ordinances as authorized expenditure beyond a certain fixed amount, and of auditing all accounts against the city before payment was made. The chief executive's office thus became primarily administrative, and the tendency in all subsequent legislation has been to broaden his responsibilities.[10]

The new charter imposed strict legal limitations on the expenditures of municipal funds and on incurring indebtedness. It prohibited the mayor and council from issuing bonds in any amount without first submitting the issue to a popular vote. It also restricted all expenditures to the annual income, and permitted borrowing only to meet payments due on the floating debt.[11]

The Board of Commissioners of Police created by the new charter was composed of five men, none of whom was a member of council. Unlike the old police committee, which was supervisory, the new body was vested with full administrative power to direct and control the police department. All appointments to the force, including the chief, and all suspensions and removals were in its hands. Its decisions were final.[12]



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Street railway operation, 1874. A horse-car of the Peachtree to Ponce de Leon Springs line on the bridge over Clear Creek. Near present Sears-Roebuck store

All in all the charter of 1874 was a masterpiece of municipal reform. It not only secured the people against municipal bankruptcy and burdensome taxation, but guaranteed a faithful and vigorous administration of the laws. From thenceforth the city's credit bounded upward.

Memorial Day, April 26, 1874, was an occasion long to be remembered. Five years previously, in spring of 1869, the Ladies' Memorial Association had initiated a movement for the erection of a suitable monument to "OUR CON-

FEDERATE DEAD" in Oakland Cemetery. Fund raising was a slow process, but by October 15, 1870, the day of General Robert E. Lee's funeral, the Association was enabled to lay the cornerstone of the monument, upon which occasion General John B. Gordon was the orator of the day.[13]

In January, 1874, the monument was finished. It is Romanesque in style, 65 feet in height, resting upon a base 20 feet square, from which rises a series of 6 gradations. Devoid of ornamentation, it is built of Stone Mountain granite, and bears only the simple inscription OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD—1873.[14]

From base to apex, it represents a free-will offering to the South's heroic dead. Many were the methods of raising money—concerts, teas, suppers, charades and moonlight picnics. The granite was donated by the Stone Mountain Granite Company, and was transported free by the Georgia Railroad. William Gray, local marble dealer, was the designer and he donated both the tablet and the inscription. Dr. Amos Fox assumed the contract for its erection and Calvin Fay gave his services as supervising architect. The total cost of the monument was only $8,000, although it represented a minimum value of $17,000.[15]

And so it was that Memorial Day, 1874, was a notable occasion, for that was the time set for the unveiling of the monument. The weather was lovely. Cloudless skies seemed to join in honor of the occasion, and no wind disturbed the dust of the streets. A great procession formed at 3 P.M., in front of the State House on Marietta Street, and, led by General Tige Anderson, proceeded to the cemetery. Here, some 15,000 persons were assembled to witness the exercises and listen to the dedicatory speech by Colonel Thomas Hardeman, of Macon. At the conclusion of the address men, women and children, with wreaths, evergreen and flower crosses, scattered over the Confederate section of the cemetery and profusely decorated the graves.[16]

Today, nearly 80 years later, the same Confederate monument, mellowed and weatherbeaten, stands guard over hundreds who gave their lives for a lost cause. It remains also, a lasting testimonial to the indefatigable efforts and patriotism of Mrs. J. M. Johnson and her contemporary associates of the Atlanta Ladies' Memorial Association.

Several newspapers and a literary magazine took the field in Atlanta during 1874, most of them short-lived. The *Georgia Commonwealth,* published and edited by Benjamin F. Sawyer, lasted from 1874 to 1876. The *Daily News,* under the volatile Alexander St. Clair-Abrams, also had a two-year career—July 5, 1874 to May 25, 1876. The *Atlanta Republican,* edited by W. L. Clark, appeared as a weekly from 1874 to 1886, and the *Southern Advance,* also a weekly, edited by L. R. Palmer, ran from 1874 to 1882.[17]

Most successful of the group was the *Sunny South,* a literary weekly first issued November 4, 1874, with J. H. and W. B. Seals as editors and proprietors and Mrs. Mary E. Bryan, as associate editor. By 1893 it had been sold to James R. Holliday, Clark Howell, and C. C. Nichols, and was being run as a supplement to the regular Sunday issue of the *Atlanta Constitution.* In 1907 it was incorporated into the *Uncle Remus Magazine* which suspended publication in 1913.[18]

An interesting example of 1874 newspaper advertising is the following, in which the name of the advertiser is modestly withheld:[19]

"The Seven Wonders of Atlanta

1. The free mail delivery.
2. The Mineral Spring.
3. Uniformed Police.
4. The Magnificent Fire Department.
5. The new Iron Bridge [Broad Street].
6. The beauty of the ladies.
7. The greatest of all—how Ladies' Underwear can be sold so cheap at No. 45 Marietta Street, opposite the Post Office."

The second graduating class of Boys' High School, that of 1874, was representive in size of those for the next 20 years or so. Its members were:[20]

Clifford Wilburg Ansley
Zachary Ward Adamson
John Aaron Gano Beach
Thomas Miller Blodgett
Charles McDonald Brown
Piromis Hulsey Bell
John Carson Brockhan
William Frank Crusselle
Daniel Pike Hill
Benjamin Gaither Howard
William Peck Lawshe
John Wesley Lively
Frank Hamilton Moses
John William Shelpert
Lovick Pierce Thomas
John Edgar Wallace
Thomas Humes Williams

Of this group, only one member, Piromis Hulsey Bell, of De Kalb County, for many years a practicing attorney of Atlanta, yet lives. He is now (1952) 94 years old.

The city property, for some years known as "Humbug Square," lying west of Pryor Street, between the railroad tracks and Alabama Street, was finally sold off as business lots on December 17, 1874. The *Constitution*,[21] in recording the event, gives us an accurate picture of contemporary realty values.

"The sale of the public square property belonging to the city came off this morning. The attendance was good and the bidding spirited. Lot No. 1, corner Alabama and Pryor streets, fronting 29 feet on Alabama Street and running back 117 feet, was bought by P. & G. T. Dodd, at $377 per front foot, or $10,933.

"Lot No. 2, fronting 25 feet on Alabama Street, and running back 125 feet, was bought by P. & G. T. Dodd at $259 per front foot, or $6,475.

"Lot No. 3, fronting 30 feet on Alabama Street and running back 132 feet, was bought by William A. Rawson at $250.50 per front foot, or $7,515.

"Lot No. 4, same frontage, and running back 139 feet was also bought by Mr. Rawson for $249.50 per front foot, or $7,385.

"Lot No. 5, same frontage and running back 146 feet, was bought by B. J. Wilson, for $249.50 per front foot, or $7,385.

"Lot No. 6, same frontage and running back 160 feet, was bought by T. G. Healey, for $301 per front foot, or $9,030.

"Lot No. 7, same frontage, and running back 167 feet, was bought by W. A. Rawson, for $390.25 per front foot, or $11,707.50.

"The sales foot up to $60,430.50.

"A very satisfactory sale."

All of these lots fronted on the north side of Alabama Street.

One of Atlanta's pioneer dentists was Dr. Samuel Hape, a brother of Dr. Albert Hape, the well-known balloonist. Dr. Samuel was born in Middleburg, Maryland, November 1, 1830, and came to Atlanta just before the War Between the States. He joined the Confederate Army as a lieutenant in the Second Georgia Regiment and served throughout the struggle. During his service he was commissioned by the Confederate government to run the blockade with dental supplies from Europe. Upon one occasion his ship was blown up in Charleston harbor, but Dr. Hape was unscathed and managed to salvage some of the precious supplies.[22] After the war he returned to Atlanta, and, about 1871 purchased a not-too-promising tract of land two miles below East Point on the Central Railroad. Therein lies the origin of Hapeville, as related by the *Atlanta Constitution* of August 22, 1874.

"HAPEVILLE

A New and Delightful Suburban
Retreat, and Promising Fruit
Centre—What a City Man
Knows About Farming

Three years ago Dr. Hape bought 260 acres of forest and sedgy land at a point on the Macon and Western road, about two miles below East Point. The land is rolling and hilly, and in no respect better than the average lands that lie between Atlanta and Macon. We state this fact for the purpose of pointing the moral, as you will see.

"Dr. Hape began to subdue this waste—three years ago, remember. He cut down the forests; he ploughed the land; he did not tickle the surface simply, and to-day he has a property that any man would be glad to own. In the place of pine and sedge grass he has forty acres of grape vines, peach, pear and apple trees. And we but speak the views of the little party that went over the grounds a few days ago, when we say that all are in a magnificent condition. . . .

"Clustered about the store and schoolhouse are a saw mill, a gin, a corn mill, a wagon shop, blacksmith shop, and nearby is a brick yard—all the elements of a prosperous little trade center. In the course of the summer about a dozen dwellings, will be erected, and then Col. Wadley [president Central R. R.] and the general government will be petitioned to grant the youthful town a railway station and a post office. With these Hapeville will start off with every prospect of moderate greatness.

"The pleasant party returned in time for dinner, highly pleased with the clever trip that Dr. H. had arranged, and fully satisfied that only intelligent culture is needed to cause the hills of Georgia to blossom as the rose."

Hapeville became a United States post office on April 23, 1875, with Samuel H. Perkins as first postmaster.[23] By Act of the legislature, approved September 16, 1891, the town of Hapeville was incorporated as the City of Hapeville, with a mayor and five councilmen. The city limits enclosed one square mile, with the Central of Georgia Railroad depot as the center.[24]

The death roll for 1874 included a number of old and substantial citizens. John D. Wells, 64, native of Beaufort District, South Carolina, a well known grocer and a resident of Atlanta since 1851, died in January. He was the father of Charles W. and Samuel P. Wells. James L. Dunning, 61, originally of Litchfield, Connecticut, and postmaster of Atlanta since April, 1869, died on February 9th. He was succeeded as postmaster on March 2nd by Dr. Samuel Bard, erstwhile proprietor of the *Atlanta Daily New Era.* Both Wells and Dunning are buried in Oakland Cemetery.[25]

John Jones, 70, a resident of West End, and the owner of much Whitehall Street business property, was thrown from his buggy and killed when the vehicle ran into a ditch near his home on February 17th. He was the father of Senator Reuben Jones and of Otis Jones, well-known Atlantans. He rests in Oakland. Benjamin Thurman, 84, last of the four original Thurman brothers who settled on the future site of Atlanta in 1826, died on May 3rd. He was originally buried on his home place on Marietta Road (across the A. C. L. tracks from the Atlanta Paper Company), but was subsequently moved to Casey's Cemetery, adjoining Crestlawn.[26]

William Solomon, 81, realty owner, for whom Solomon Street is named, fell from an upstairs window of his home on Mitchell Street opposite the old city hall on May 16th, and received injuries from which he died the same day. He was a man of great shrewdness and fine judgment. In business matters he was close and exacting, but was always true to his obligations. He is buried in Oakland. The old Solomon home was torn down a few years ago to make way for one of the State office buildings opposite the capitol.[27]

John Connolly, 54, native of Ireland and city sexton for several years, died in August. He had been especially zealous in the upkeep of Confederate graves, and lies buried amidst the scene of his labors in Oakland. Edward R. Sasseen, 54, a native of Chesterfield County, Virginia, and one of the noted ante-bellum hotel keepers of the city, died August 28th. Dr. Hammond Marshall, 60, proprietor of a sword factory in Atlanta during the war, died September 21st. Judge David G. Cotting, 62, native of Massachusetts, and Georgia's secretary of state since 1868, died at his home on McDonough Street, October 4th. He was the father-in-law of the late Captain J. F. Burke, of Atlanta. Jeremiah F. Trout, 72, builder of the famous old Trout House on Decatur Street opposite the city park, died December 31st. Sasseen, Marshall, Cotting and Trout are all buried in Oakland Cemetery.[28]

In De Kalb County, Wesley Braswell, 73, founder of a well-known family of the Lithonia neighborhood, took his own life on March 6th with a shotgun while in a fit of despondency. He is buried in the Lithonia Cemetery. Andrew Rogers, 70, a pioneer farmer of Panthersville District, and for many years an official of the De Kalb superior court, died April 18th, and is buried in the Decatur Cemetery.[29]

Dr. George K. Hamilton, 70, of Stone Mountain, a native of Putnam County, and a practicing physician of De Kalb since about 1834, died June 7th. He is buried in the Stone Mountain Cemetery. Walter Wadsworth, a manufacturer of tinware in Decatur since 1836, and a native of Hartford, Connecticut, died November 5th, aged 73. He is buried in the old Decatur Cemetery.[30]

H. I. Kimball, as previously noted, returned to Atlanta from a self-imposed exile, in February, 1874, with a view to rebutting any charges against him. No supportable charges were found, either by Linton Stephens, a special investigator appointed by Governor Smith, or by a Fulton County grand jury. The foreman of the jury, in fact, tendered Kimball a "vindication banquet" at the hotel named in his honor. The representative Atlantans who made this gesture regarded Kimball as the builder he was, whose talents as an organizer and handler of men could be of vast benefit to the community.[31]

Kimball found a supporter in young Henry W. Grady, editor of the *Herald*. "The New South," as Grady called it in an editorial as early as March 14, 1874, needed men with business ability and enterprise, even though they might have been associated with the carpet-baggers of Reconstruction days. Grady recognized that factories as well as farms were essential to prosperity. He heartily endorsed a plan to build a cotton mill in Atlanta by public subscription and favored a proposal to make Kimball its first president. This project, in fact, became a reality in 1875, when the Atlanta Cotton Factory was organized and erected at Marietta and Magnolia streets, with H. I. Kimball as president, and Edward E. Rawson as secretary and treasurer.[32]

The remainder of Henry W. Grady's brief life of 39 years was to be dedicated to the economic regeneration of his "New South."

About the time Grady coined this happy and forward-looking appellation for his beloved section, the Lithonia Agricultural Club adopted a motto—also full of promise:

"Corn in the barn loft, Fodder in the yard,
Meat in the smokehouse, and a barrel full of lard;
Milk in the dairy, Butter on the board,
Coffee in the little bag, and sugar in the gourd."[33]

NOTES—CHAPTER 52

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 4, 1873.

[2] "Garrett's Necrology."

[3] Reed, *Atlanta,* 260; *City Directory,* 1874.

[4] Reed, *Atlanta,* 260-261.

[5] *Ibid.,* 260.

[6] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 73; Paul W. Miller, ed., *Atlanta Capital of the South* (New York, 1949), 45. Hereafter cited as Miller, ed., *Atlanta.*

[7] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 73-74.

[8] *Ibid.; Ga. Laws,* 1874, pp. 116-150.

[9] Miller, ed., *Atlanta,* 45.

[10] *Ibid.,* 46.

[11] *Ibid.*

[12] *Ibid.,* 46-47.

[13] Malone, "Atlanta Ladies' Memorial Association," *loc. cit.,* 30.

[14] *Ibid.*

[15] *Ibid.*

[16] *Atlanta Constitution,* Apr. 28, 1874.

[17] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 46-48.

[18] *Ibid.,* 48.

[19] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 1, 1874.

[20] *Annual Reports, City of Atlanta, 1893,* p. 667.

[21] Dec. 18, 1874.

[22] "Garrett's Necrology."

[23] Record Postmasters, Fulton.

[24] *Ga. Laws,* 1890-1891, p. 783.

[25] "Garrett's Necrology."

[26] *Ibid.*

[27] *Ibid.*

[28] *Ibid.*

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] *Ibid.;* The death date on Walter Wadsworth's tombstone, appears as Nov. 5, 1875, one year too late. The stone is not a contemporary one.

[31] Nixon, *Henry W. Grady,* 109; Mitchell, "H. I. Kimball," *loc. cit.,* 263.

[32] Nixon, *Henry W. Grady,* 109-110; *City Directory,* 1876.

[33] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 10, 1874.

CHAPTER 53

1875

DESPITE its metropolitan trimmings, Atlanta by the middle 1870's was still basically an overgrown country town.

To illustrate the point, council found it necessary, in March, 1875, to pass what was known as the "Cow Ordinance." This ordinance required all owners to keep their cows within enclosures at night, and required the public to gather up and put into the pound all vagrant cows found out after respectable hours. Owners could get their cows within 48 hours by the payment of two dollars which went to the city treasury. If not taken out within that time, they were to be advertised and the proceeds applied to the expenses.[1]

While the ordinance required the public to round up stray cows, the task generally fell to the police. These patient public servants had exceeding difficulty, as the following will indicate:

"Officer Monaghan found Judge Hopkins' cow asleep on the sidewalk, and he forthwith began to drive her in. Monaghan had a hard time of it, and it several times happened that the thing got reversed, and he discovered that the cow was driving him. It was upon these occasions that officer Monaghan developed that agility, for which he is so distinguished, and made for the nearest tree. After much time had been spent in afternately advancing and retreating, reinforcements arrived, and the cow was safely driven up."[2]

The municipal election of December 2, 1874, for a mayor and council to serve during 1875, was the first to be held under the new charter, which incidentally had reduced the number of wards from seven to five. The Democratic ticket headed by former mayor Cicero C. Hammock had no opposition, which insured a quiet election. So quiet was it that the *Constitution* was moved to comment:

"Our city is so thoroughly democratic and the spirit of harmony is so prevalent in the party, that it has been several years since any excitement has attended our municipal elections. Yesterday was as quiet as if nothing out of the regular order of things was transpiring. . . .

"There being no opposition and a light vote, everything passed off quietly. In the Second Ward the managers, Messrs. Robert Crawford, J. S. Smith and O. H. Jones, sent a note to Judge Hammock for some marbles to while away the time. The judge graciously complied. The managers played against the clerks, Messrs. J. C. Seymour, D. W. Ellis and T. L. Wells. We did not learn the result of the game. But Hammock came out triumphant with 691 votes."[3]

Aaron Haas was elected mayor *pro tem.*, and Andrew J. West, Robert F. Maddox and Aaron Haas, aldermen-at-large. Councilmen elected were:

First Ward—John B. Goodwin and John D. Turner.
Second Ward—Jeremiah W. Goldsmith and William D. Ellis.
Third Ward—David A. Beatie and Thomas A. Morris.
Fourth Ward—John H. Flynn and John S. Garmany.
Fifth Ward—John A. Richardson and Frank P. Rice.

Rice resigned March 1, 1875, and was succeeded by Augustus N. Hunt.[4]

As provided by the charter of 1874, the mayor was elected for a two-year term; alderman West for a three-year term, alderman Maddox for two years, and alderman Haas for one year. Half of the councilmen, namely, Messrs. Goodwin, Goldsmith, Beatie, Flynn and Richardson, for two years, and the others for one year. The new bicameral system was now in operation.[5]

Ministerial officers elected by the 1875 council were: clerk, Frank T. Ryan; marshal, W. H. Holcombe; treasurer, J. W. Goldsmith; city attorney, W. T. Newman; auditor and recorder, John T. Pendleton; city engineer, H. T. McDaniel; tax receivers and collectors, James A. Anderson and James O. Harris; street overseer, W. F. Woods; sexton, Leonidas G. Holland; chairman of the board of health, Dr. Elijah L. Connally.[6]

Eighteen seventy-five also brought some changes in courthouse circles, both in Fulton and De Kalb. In the former William S. Walker succeeded Samuel R. Hoyle as tax collector. In the latter, J. R. Russell succeeded Hiram J. Williams as clerk, superior court; James Hunter succeeded John Baxter as sheriff; I. N. Nash succeeded P. B. McCurdy as tax collector; J. R. McAllister succeeded Robert Jones as treasurer; Frank L. Guess succeeded E. M. Kittridge as surveyor, and M. A. Veal succeeded W. F. A. Dickinson as coroner.[7]

The first annual report of the chief of police, issued in January, 1875, gives us an excellent first-hand picture of local law enforcement methods under the recently organized department. It follows:

"Captain Thomas G. Jones, Chief of Police, submitted his first annual report to council on Monday [Jan. 4]. The report is a comprehensive one and makes a fine showing for the police force.

Strength of the Force

"The force consists of one chief, three lieutenants, two station house keepers, two detectives, two overseers of chain gang, thirty-seven patrolmen, two of them being stationed at the union passenger depot.

Police Divisions

"The city is divided into five police divisions, one for each ward, and the police are distributed according to territory and the work to be done in each.

Efficiency

"The Chief thinks the number of patrolmen insufficient for the size of the city and the territory to be patroled. He recalls with pleasure and pride the past year of peace and quietude in the city.

Atlanta Redeemed

"Atlanta is no longer the rendezvous of thieves and criminals. The course marked out in the beginning by the Chief has been marked with success; a stern resolve that honest men should be protected, and criminals, no matter what their condition, should be dealt with.

Increase in the Force

"The Chief does not think the present force adequate to the thorough protection of the city, and suggests the force to be increased to sixty men, and ten at least mounted.

Organization of the Force

"The members of the force receive their appointment from the Board of Police Commissioners, after a thorough examination of their physical condition and moral standing. The appointments have been made with a view of obtaining the best men, regardless of nationality. Patrolmen and officers are uniformed at their own expense. The Chief argues against the injustice to discharge policemen for political or personal reasons, and suggests that promotion should be the reward for services rendered in the past by faithful discharge of duty in the position occupied.

Hours of Duty

'The force is divided into three watches, which are changed every four months. The first watch goes on duty at 12 o'clock at night, and is relieved at 8 o'clock A.M.; the second goes on at 8 A.M. and is relieved at 4 P.M.; the third goes on at 4 P.M. and is relieved at 12 o'clock at night. This division gives each man the same proportion of day and night service during the year. The Chief recommends that this system of three watches be continued on account of the health of the men, and the more efficient service that they are thus enabled to perform.

Detectives

"The Chief awards great praise to the detectives for ferreting out thefts, and thinks that for worth, honesty of purpose and integrity, no city in the South can claim more faithful, shrewd or energetic officers than Messrs. [E. C.] Murphy and [F. J.] Bomar. Their known hostility to criminals, and their repute as shrewd officers has added largely to the success in keeping the city free of crime. No robbery worthy of notice has occurred since their induction into office. The principal thieving has been confined to that perpetrated by sneak thieves entering the halls of residences while the inmates are at tea and the police are lighting the city lamps.

Rewards

"The Chief thinks that members of the police ought not to claim or receive rewards for any service performed in the discharge of his duty. Should anyone offer a reward and a member of the force while not on duty recovers the property, then he might receive the reward. There is a contract between the city and the police that for eight hours' service daily, the policeman shall receive a stipulated sum. Whether the pay be sufficient or not, the contract should be carried out.

Rogue's Gallery

"While the collection of the potraits of principal thieves is small, it has been of signal service to the detectives in spotting criminals who come here.

Station House

"The accommodations at the station house are ample for every need. The Chief recommends that the third floor be no longer rented out but that two rooms be fitted up as a 'lodgers' home' for the accommodation of poor unfortunates without means to hire a bed. The other rooms might be fitted up with bunks for the accommodation of members of the police force who live at a distance from the station house, especially when they come off at 12 o'clock of a dark and cold night.

THE CHAIN GANG

"The Chief is of the opinion that a work house or house of correction for the confinement of persons convicted of minor infractions of the city ordinances and unable to pay a fine would better carry out the spirit of the law and at the same time be as serviceable to the city as the chain gang. He thinks the associating of youths with more hardened or older criminals is productive of evil to the boys, and not advancing really the ends of justice in correcting their evil ways. Under existing circumstances, however, he considers the chain gang as the best means of punishment.

PAY OF THE MEN

"Under this head the Chief urges that the pay of the lieutenants be increased to $100 and that of patrolmen to $75 per month. This he considers but right, as a deduction is made for each day and night lost through sickness or absence from duty. They are dependent upon this salary for the support of themselves and families, and they can ill bear the loss from their meagre pay.

THE SOCIAL EVIL

"No means having been discovered to abate the social evil, the Chief has endeavored to keep these houses under a strict watch, so that no violation of the peace ordinances should occur. During the year no case of disorderly or riotous conduct has occurred within these houses, and only one case of rioting near them.

STATISTICS

"The Chief appends several statistical tables to his report. The report shows 46 men, all told, on the police force.

"The oldest men on the force are T. C. Murphy[8] and T. G. McHan, 50 years of age; the youngest J. B. Monaghan, 22 years. T. C. Murphy has been a policeman for 18 years.

"The nativity of the force is as follows: Georgia, 30; Ireland, 3; South Carolina, 3; North Carolina, Tennessee and Prussia, 2 each; Alabama, Italy, Texas and Louisiana, 1 each.

"The occupation of the force is thus classified: Farmers, 10; clerks and carpenters, 6 each; railroaders, 5; mechanics and merchants, 2 each; florist, ship carpenter, detective, engineer, bookkeeper, glazier, agent, doctor, mason, painter, student, sailor, brick maker, gold digger, 1 each.

"36 are married; 9 single; 1 widower.

"The average age of the force is 35 years, 2 months and 12 days.

"3605 arrests were made during the year, classified as follows: White males, 1294; white females, 233; colored males, 1721; colored females, 357. The largest number of arrests was made in September, 354; the lowest in February, 240.

"The nationality of those arrested is classified as follows: Americans, 1200; Africans, 2050; Irish, 150; Germans, 14; Italian, 12; French, 14; English, 16; Swedes, 18; Scotch, 16; Spaniards, 11; Mexicans, 4.

"Arrests per policeman during the year averaged 123."[9]

Shortly after submitting the above report, Chief Jones was discharged on January 25, 1875, and was succeeded by James A. Anderson, who filled out the unexpired term.

By 1875 horses had come into general use by the fire department, which saved the volunteer members thereof the physical strain and danger of pulling the equipment.[10] Yet the day of the volunteer department was waning, for the growth of the city had made it increasingly difficult for the firemen to function without interference and criticism. The *Daily Herald* of March 13, 1875, undertook to squelch those who constantly offered gratuitous advice to the hard-working firemen:

"THE WAY THEY DO AT A FIRE

"Our most excellent chief of the Fire Department, Mr. Jake Emmel, is one of the most efficient and prompt officials that the department has ever had. But he is very seriously retarded in his management of fires by the number of outsiders who rush up during a blaze and assume more authority than is proper or necessary by excitedly yelling and giving orders, and pressing suggestions upon the chief and firemen, thereby tending to produce confusion and discord in the work. At the fire on Tuesday night this was remarked by a number of persons who witnessed the performances of some over-nervous people. Let the firemen alone, and do not embarrass the chief by suggestions and retarding operations by getting in the way of the workers. They are supposed to understand their business, and this part of the city government is entrusted to them."

Of inestimable help to the fire department, and a landmark in the progress of Atlanta, was the completion of a public waterworks system in the early fall of 1875.

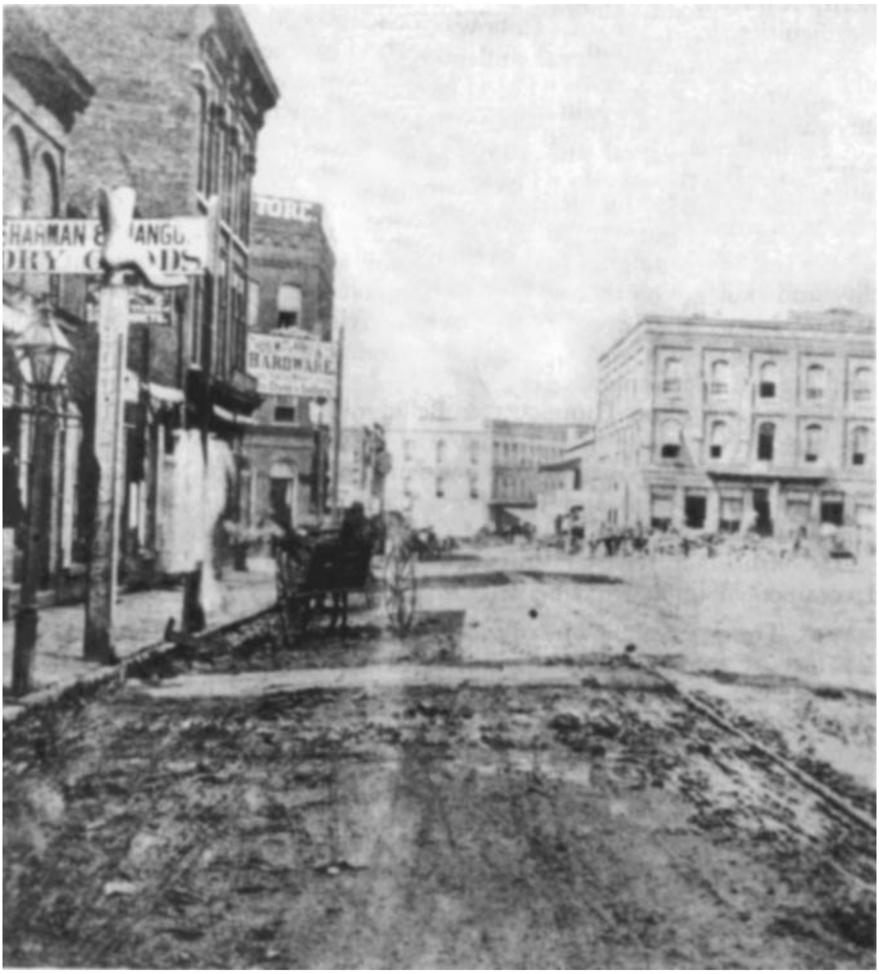
The culmination of this great municipal improvement was the result of a movement begun in 1866 by Anthony Murphy, then a member of city council and chairman of the committee on wells, pumps and cisterns. He had observed the inadequate supply of water for fire protection, sanitary and other purposes. Consequently he was inspired to make a report to council embodying his observations, but no action was taken at the time.[11]

Soon thereafter, but apparently not through Mr. Murphy's influence, the Atlanta Canal and Waterworks Company was incorporated on March 7, 1866. Its purpose was to secure for the city a "constant and plentiful supply of water." The incorporators were William W. Boyd, Hammond Marshall, David E. Butler, Samuel A. Marshall, Thomas W. Chandler and Francis T. Willes. Power was given to the company to cut a canal or construct an aqueduct, commencing at any point on the Chattahoochee River in De Kalb, Fulton, or any adjoining county, and to run pipes into the city, etc. Nothing was done by the company to carry out its stated objectives, and it existed in name only.[12]

The next entry into the local waterworks field was the Atlanta Canal and Water Company, incorporated on March 16, 1869, with H. I. Kimball, E. N. Kimball, John Rice, John C. Peck and James A. Burns as incorporators, Power and authority were given the company to use the water of Peachtree Creek or any other stream for the purpose of conveying water into the city of Atlanta.[13]

This company, of which J. G. Westmoreland was president, and James Atkins, secretary, made a proposal to council on July 1, 1870, to construct a waterworks on Utoy Creek, southwest of the city. Misunderstandings and litigation followed. Result, no waterworks.[14]

Meanwhile, Anthony Murphy, again a member of council in 1870, offered a resolution to investigate the subject of water supply and was authorized to go North and investigate various systems in operation. Principally through his unremitting efforts, an act was passed by the legislature, and approved September 23, 1870, authorizing the mayor and council of Atlanta "to provide for the introduction of waterworks in said city and for other purposes." The act also provided for the creation of a board of water commissioners. Mr. Murphy was elected a member of and president of the first board.[15]



(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Peachtree Street circa 1875, looking south from a point between Wheat Street (now Auburn Ave.) and Line Street (now Edgewood Ave.). Structure on right is the Norcross Building, present site of First National Bank Building

The progress of the water board was delayed by legal difficulties. It was enjoined from issuing bonds to construct waterworks on the ground that the act of the legislature empowering the board to do so was unconstitutional and void, because it deprived citizens of property without due process of law and trial by jury. The constitutionality of the act was finally settled, and the board proceeded to issue bonds to the extent of $440,000. On May 29, 1871, a contract was made with the Holley Waterworks Company to construct the necessary machinery, which was to be ready by January 15, 1872. The capacity of the works was to be 3,000,000 gallons of water in 24 hours, and they were to be located on Peachtree Creek near the Atlanta and Richmond Air Line [Southern] Railroad. Cost was to be $130,000.[16]

Again, difficulties, legal and otherwise, intervened. It looked like Atlanta would never get its waterworks. Finally, in the latter part of 1873 a workable plan was adopted, a new site selected, and construction contracts made.[17] The new site was the old Stephen Terry mill property on Poole's Creek, a headwater of South River, and the present site of Lakewood Park.

By March 25, 1875, the dam, 51 feet above the bed of the creek and 350 feet long, had been completed by Messrs. J. T. and W. D. Grant, the contractors. It was, according to a contemporary account, "a monument to their fidelity and skill." One hundred and nine convicts were used. From the same source we learn "that every one [of the convicts] was well clothed, appeared hale and hearty, and was certainly vigorous. They evidently have plenty to eat and are not overworked."[18]

At the same time Hunnicutt & Bellingrath had 120 hands employed in laying pipe. This phase of the work was moving forward with great rapidity and the pipe line had reached the residence of Colonel J. M. C. Reed at the junction of McDonough and Jonesboro roads. Engineer in charge of the entire project was John A. Grant,[19] a son of Colonel L. P. Grant.

A *Constitution* reporter drove out to the waterworks on June 15, 1875, and commented upon what he saw, in part, as follows:

". . . The reservoir is already filled with clear cold spring water to a depth of 25 feet at the tower. The sheet of water, entwined as it is, among the grass clad hills, is very beautiful. The engine house, smokestack, dam, boilers, indeed everything was minutely examined by Mr. Scouden,[20] with many expressions of critical approval. He thought the site of the reservoir one of the finest he had ever seen. Mr. [Anthony] Murphy was the recipient of many compliments for his prominent share in this great enterprise. Three car loads of machinery reached the city yesterday and the job of putting into position will be commenced at once. It will occupy three or four days and then comes the water."[21]

On August 9th a preliminary test of the water system was made in Atlanta. Then the great day came on September 11th when service began. The event was described by the *Constitution:*[22]

"OUR WATERWORKS

Grand Demonstration Yesterday Afternoon

Brilliant Success of the Holley System

The Immense Throngs of Spectators, Etc.

"If there are any men left in Atlanta this morning who saw the tests yesterday, and who do not pronounce our water works system a complete and magnificent success, we are very poor judges of human nature. Even those few who for months past were predicting every sort of failure, are effectually silenced, and all of our readers are appreciating the fact that after months, and even years of laborious efforts, our water commissioners have at last brought to the heart of our city, an exhaustless supply of the pure element.

Crowded Streets and Visitors

"Yesterday afternoon was the appointed time for the tests of the Holley system, and the occasion constitutes quite an epoch in the history of the commonwealth. Few exhibitions in our city have ever attracted such wide spread and intense interest as the present. Not only was the entire city full of our own city people, but we had the pleasure of seeing here delegations from various other communities in the state. Among the visitors we may mention Hon. John M. James, mayor of Chattanooga; Henry Wilcox, chief of the Chattanooga fire department; Robert Hooke, the city engineer; C. B. Grimes, of Columbus; J. J. Clay, of Macon; Dr. T. N. Pitts, of Covington, and numerous others.

"Long before two o'clock, the hour set for the trials at the hydrants about the Kimball House, the streets presented one compact mass of spectators, of every age, sex and color. All the available windows in the several stories of the Republic block and Kimball House, were crowded with ladies and children, while every moment new additions were made to the crowd upon the streets until the pressure upon those in front became very uncomfortable. Many hundreds of countrymen came to the city to witness the spouting and brought their families with them.

"Across Pryor Street from the Kimball House to the Republic Block, a rope was stretched at an elevation of precisely one hundred feet from the earth. From the center of the cord a flag was suspended, and this flag was the objective point of four out of the six streams to be thrown simultaneously. By a wise precaution the thousands of spectators were prevented from encroaching upon Pryor Street, and were kept to the sidewalks by a strong detachment of police. Shortly before two o'clock the members of our several fire companies, who had kindly consented to furnish hosepipe and men necessary for carrying out the proposed trials, made their appearance in full uniform, and at the same time matters were enlivened by a band of music stationed at the hotel. . . .

The Weather

"The weather was exceedingly unfavorable for the experiments. The morning set in with a stiff breeze from the northeast and a very remarkable fall in temperature. Towards afternoon the breeze very perceptibly increased in violence, and by two o'clock, the time set for the tests, was blowing a perfect gale. Under these adverse circumstances, Mr. Holley might well have refused to put his engine to the trial, and have demanded a postponement to some more propitious day, but feeling satisfied that the power of his magnificent machinery would suffice to throw at least 100 feet, in spite of the winds, and not wishing to disappoint the spectators, he decided to go on.

The Trial at the Kimball House

"The firemen quickly made their hose attachments to the hydrants. Six lengths of 50 feet each were used, three being attached to the two hydrants on the corner of Pryor and Decatur streets; one to the hydrant on the corner of

Pryor and Wall streets, and two to hydrants near the depot. Shortly past two o'clock the water was turned on at each hydrant, and one after another the six streams were cast high into the air. The force of the wind down Pryor Street was so great that the spray flew far over into the crowds, and the result was that there was a dissolving away of people like snow under the noonday sun. While four of the streams were directed at the flag, the two farther down Pryor Street were sent over the top of Dodd's new building on Alabama Street. The success of the experiment was even far beyond what had been anticipated. Four of the streams, in spite of the wind, reared far above the Kimball House, while the other two attained an equal height over Dodd's building. The excitement among the crowd was immense and cheer after cheer rang through the air as the unusual sight of six powerful streams shooting up at once presented itself. The height attained was 160 feet, through one inch nozzles.

On Peachtree Street

"After playing a little over twenty minutes, the water was turned off, the hose pipes detached from the hydrants, and all hands adjourned up Peachtree Street to the neighborhood of Mr. John H. James' residence, where the same trial was repeated. This time, however, there were only four streams. The last hydrant now on Peachtree Street is the highest in the city. It has an elevation above that of the engine of 214 feet. The height of the stream thrown from this hydrant was 143 feet. . . .

On Marietta Street

"A third trial was next made on Marietta Street at the capitol, this time with two streams only. The capitol as well as both sidewalks was thronged with spectators. In spite of the wind, which was blowing with the fury of a gale, the height reached was 135 feet. . . .

Fire Service Test

"The flag staff of the Kimball House is 153 feet above the surface of the ground, and six streams were thrown at a distance of several feet above the top of the pole, flooding the roof of the house with hundreds of gallons of water per minute.

"The last trial was one designed to illustrate the practical utility of the works in cases of fire. The alarm bell was sounded, and the hose cart of steamer No. 1 ran from its house to the corner of Whitehall and Garnett streets, attached a thousand feet of hose to the hydrant, and played 100 feet of water inside of seven minutes. This was rapid working, and no better demonstration of the Holley system could be made. Indeed, both Mr. Holley and our water commissioners[23] have reason to be proud of yesterday's show.

"The other fire companies afterwards got up a race among themselves down Decatur Street, to see which could run a given distance and throw water from the hydrants near the Kimball House in the shortest time. No. 4 was victorious.

"The day was full of amusing incidents. The power of the water was so great that the hose pipes burst from the boys on two occasions, and some admiring crowds on the other sides of the streets immediately dispersed, but not until many of them carried off a gallon or so of water in their coattail pockets. There were also more drowned niggers and white boys of tender age upon the streets than we ever saw before, but all took their ducking good naturedly.

PLEASANT REUNION

"After the tests a party of a dozen gentlemen assembled by invitation of Major John F. Edwards in Col. G. W. Adair's office to discuss a basket of champagne and drink success to the Holley company. Among those present were Col. Adair, Major Edwards, C. G. Hildreth, Judge O. A. Lochrane, Anthony Murphy, Judge Clayton, Capt. E. P. Howell, R. G. Powell of Barnesville, Col. Brown and others. The meeting was entirely informal, and there were no set speeches, but plenty of good stories. Success and prosperity to the Holley company was drank with an earnestness that attested the sincerity of all present, and after a very delightful hour or two, the party dispersed."

And so it happened that thirty years after becoming Atlanta, the city had acquired a waterworks. The day of inside plumbing, including the *cabinet d'aisances* had dawned.

In June, 1874, Fulton County had secured another post office—Adamsville, on the Green and Howell Ferry Road. The name of the office was changed to Hemphill in 1885, and was finally discontinued altogether in 1904. Postmaster during the entire life of the office was Alston H. G. Howell, a pioneer citizen of the community.[24]

The year 1875 was one of considerable progress in local building operations. Real estate improvements aggregated probably $1,000,000. Some of these improvements involved the filling up of unsightly spots, notably the low ground south of Hunter and east of McDonough (Capitol Avenue) streets. Thomas Alexander, Irish-born railroad contractor, spent some $25,000 on the project, which included the erection of numerous cottages on the improved land.[25]

The city also acquired during the year a new bank, an ornate saloon and a fine hotel, the latter second only to the Kimball House in size and appointments.

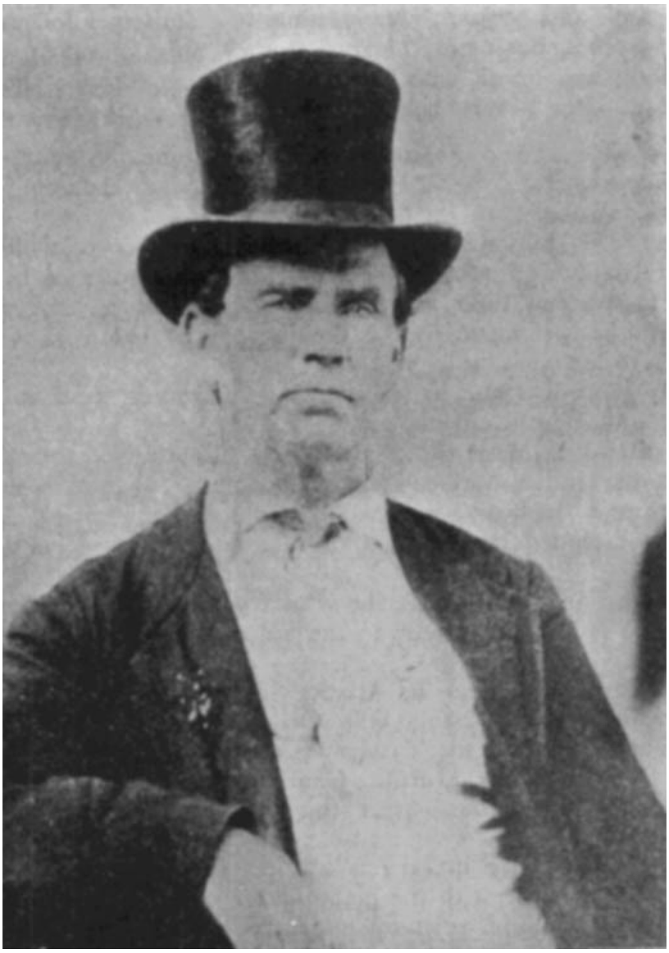
The new bank, known as the Atlanta Savings Bank, was incorporated on March 2nd, with a capital of $500,000. Original officers were Samuel B. Hoyt, president; Robert H. Richards, cashier; S. B. Hoyt, R. H. Richards, Alfred Austell, John Neal, Anthony Murphy, Charles Beerman and William P. Orme, directors. After a prosperous career this institution became the Gate City National Bank in 1879.[26]

The acme of elegance in saloons was reached in Atlanta on September 11th, when simultaneously with the inauguration of the waterworks, Lee Smith threw open the doors of his splendid new establishment and let in the light of day to be reflected dazzingly from the crystal and silver glories of the BIG BONANZA, on the south side of Decatur Street between Peachtree and the Kimball House.[27]

Smith was born within 20 miles of Atlanta, and first tended bar at the "Magnolia" on Peachtree Street. After a two-year stint at the St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans, he returned to Atlanta and became proprietor progressively of the "House of Lords,' the "Girl of the Period," and of the "Alhambra." His latest venture was described by the *Constitution,* in part, as follows:[28]

"The vestibule of the saloon is frescoed upon either side and upon the ceiling in tasty figures. The floor is entirely covered with a huge India grass rug into which the words 'Big Bonanza' are woven in great red capitals. Upon the four pillars in front are to be placed splendid lamps, costing $50 each. His crystal illuminated sign, which will flash the name 'Big Bonanza' upon the sight of all who pass that way at night, while the night lamp, a splendid affair, with the name of Lee Smith is visible upon both sides, will eclipse anything of its kind in the south, and cost $390. . . .

"The saloon is a perfect marvel of tasty finish and decoration, from the splendid $2500 French mirror in the rear, which doubles the fine effect, to the rugs and carpets on the floor. The counter is of the purest white marble and worked up into a splendid affair. The wainscoting all around the room is of variegated and costly marble in latest patterns. . . . The paraphernalia of the bar is of solid silver and shines like polished bricks from the California Bonanza mines, and the glassware is of the best cut styles. . . .



(Collection of Franklin M. Garrett)

James M. Calhoun (1811-1875), Mayor of Atlanta during the trials and tribulations of the War Between the States and to whom fell the unpleasant necessity of surrendering the city to Federal Forces, Sept. 2, 1864. From a photo made about 1873.

"Taken altogether, this is one of the finest saloons in the south or west, and Lee Smith has outdone in this all his previous efforts."

Since his arrival in Atlanta in 1853 from McDonough, William Markham had always been one of the city's most progressive citizens. His numerous building operations reached their crescendo in 1875, when his best remembered monument, the Markham House, was erected on Loyd (Central Avenue) Street at the foot of Wall Street. The *Constitution* of November 16, 1875, duly described the new hostelry:

"Yesterday at 12 o'clock the contractors of the Markham House, Messrs. J. C. Peck & Co., formally turned over the keys of the house to the owner, William Markham, Esq., who received and accepted the work upon the certificate of W. H. Parkins, the architect.

"The contract was signed upon the 18th of June, and the house completed November 15, 1875, the day specified.

"The following persons were engaged on it:

"J. C. Peck & Co., contractors, who did the work; W. H. Parkins, architect; Broomhead & Alexander, brick work; D. A. McDuffie, plastering; Otto Gercke, slating; Hunnicutt & Bellingrath, tin, cornice and window caps, plumbing, steam heating, gas, furnace, etc., and electric bell. Mr. G. L. Davis, electrical engineer, put in the electrical enunciator, the first one used in the south.

"There are 107 sleeping rooms in the house. The sun shines into every window. There are only two dark rooms in the house, and they are adapted for railroad men and the night clerks who sleep in the daytime.

"There are two miles of piping in the house, and 1400 feet of sewers.

"The house is supplied with water from a well in the yard, and is also connected with the waterworks.

"A concrete pavement is being put down on Loyd Street and a rock crossing to the depot.

"The cooking range is ten and a half feet long. There is a steam table for boiling vegetables.

"Twenty-two rooms are heated by fire or steam as desired.

"Upon receiving the keys, Mr. Markham expressed his gratification at the expeditious and faithful manner with which the work had been done, and the pleasant relations existing between him and all engaged in the work. It was the 48th house he had built in Atlanta.

"There were quite a number of the citizens of Atlanta present to witness the scene and partake of a little 'juice of the grape' shed on the occasion.

"Dr. J. F. Alexander toasted Mr. Markham as having succeeded in his ambition in building a monument to himself and the pride of Atlanta.

"Mr. Bellingrath hoped Mr. Markham might be as successful as Parkins in pleasing and Peck in building.

"The various men engaged in prosecuting the work were called out and responded in felicitous terms.

"A rapid colloquy ensued, from which we synopsize the following facts:

"The original idea was to utilize the walls of Peck's planing mill, but in doing this they obtained the best ventilated building in the United States.

"The house has the best system of sewerage in the city, paid for by Mr. Markham.

"All the work was done here by home workmen, and it is the best hotel for the money in the Union.

"The steam is so simple that it can be run by anyone who can run a boiler.

> "The well that supplies the house is 35 feet deep and 12 feet in diameter.
>
> "All congratulated Mr. Markham upon the selection of Mr. [James E.] Owens to keep it. They guaranteed that he would keep the best table in the south and attend to his guests better. High eulogiums were paid him, which he justly deserves."

For 20 years the Markham House was to play an important role in the history of Atlanta, until it was finally destroyed by fire in 1896, six years after the death of its builder.

On February 27, 1875, an Act of the legislature was approved which ratified the purchase, in 1874, by the mayor and council of Atlanta, for $50,000, the lot at the northwest corner of Marietta and Forsyth streets. Purpose of the purchase was to secure the erection by the United States government of a custom house and post office. The lot was to be deeded to the government free of cost.[29] Not long afterward the substantial brick and stone building, long used for its original purpose, but subsequently as a city hall, was erected. The property, now occupied by a hole-in-the-ground parking lot, is owned by the Fulton National Bank as a site for its future headquarters.

Prior to 1875 the railroad business could only be termed chaotic. Nothing was more fluid than freight and passenger rates, which situation resulted in serious losses to the carriers and general dissatisfaction to shippers and travelers.

The problem challenged the serious attention of Albert Fink, vice-president of the L. & N. Railroad. He fully realized the urgent need of reform and deeming it imperative that greater harmony should exist between railroad companies, devoted his entire attention to the matter. As a result he was largely instrumental in the organization of the Southern Railway and Steamship Association in 1875.[30]

Mr. Fink established a permanent bureau in Atlanta at the corner of Broad and Alabama streets, and himself became first commissioner, a position he held for six months from October, 1875, during which period he lived at the Kimball House. The local bureau practically united 25 transportation lines. The commissioner was authorized to see that agreements between carriers were properly observed and executed. If any questions arose upon which the companies could not agree, they were submitted for his decision as arbitrator, so that such questions as might lead to disastrous rate-wars could be judicially settled. The Association did not remedy all of the trouble at one fell swoop, but it and similar organizations in other sections of the country did much, over the years, to stabilize railroad rates generally.[31]

In his President's Report for 1875, Joseph E. Brown of the W. & A., took cognizance of the Southern Railway and Steamship Association, but expressed himself as being ready for peace or war. He said, in part:

> "The Southern Railway and Steamship Association, after much deliberation, was formed and Mr. Albert Fink, an able and experienced railroad man, was elected General Commissioner with power delegated by the different companies to adjust matters of difference between the respective companies and to see that rates are maintained. Mr. Fink entered upon the discharge of his duties with much energy and ability, but with all his watchfulness and care, he has not been able to keep all the members of the Association up to the line agreed upon, and even at present it is doubtful whether, on account of the bad faith of some of the lines, a general railroad war and cutting of rates may not be the final result.

"This Company has invariably maintained rates and kept faith where it agreed to do so. I deprecate the alternative of a railroad war and shall do everything in my power, to the last moment, to avoid it. But if come it must, I shall do all in my power to make the war such as to cripple our adversaries as soon as possible and bring them back to a maintenance of rates, as a matter of interest to themselves, as well as to us. . . ."

On Monday afternoon, March 1, 1875, Atlanta experienced the worst deluge in its history, while a portion of western Fulton County extending from Adamsville to Sandy Springs was visited by a destructive hurricane. The hurricane struck on the Green and Howell's Ferry Road in what was then called Stone's District. Houses, barns, fences and crops were demolished, while many fine old trees, standing since Indian days, were blown down across various roads. The wind proceeded through Casey's, now Collins' District, where it played havoc with John A. Casey's residence and outbuildings. Continuing into Buckhead District it destroyed Sardis Methodist Church at Roswell and Power's Ferry roads, even flattening the headboards and tombstones in the adjoining cemetery. The church was a stout two-story frame structure, the upstairs of which was used as a Masonic hall. Just before the wind struck the church a Mr. Armstrong, accompanied by his son, had taken shelter by one side of the building. They were sitting in a wagon drawn by two stout mules. Shortly after taking this position, Sardis Church, like the walls of Jericho, came tumbling down about them. One mule was instantly killed; the other injured, the wagon was demolished, and the two men were painfully, though not seriously injured. They had to be cut from under the ruins with axes. While property damage was extensive and personal injuries numerous, no fatalities were recorded as a result of the great blow.[33]

The unfortunate tendency in Atlanta to change historic street names to comparatively meaningless ones, got its start in March, 1875, when a movement was set afoot to rename Pryor Street as Park Avenue. Through opposition of a number of substantial citizens, including John Neal, a friend of Allen W. Pryor, for whom the street was named, the name change did not materialize.[34]

On the roll of departed citizens for 1875 were the brothers Calhoun, Dr. Ezekiel N. and James M. Both were born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, the former in 1799 and the latter in 1811. After attending the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Dr. Calhoun settled in Elbert County, Georgia, where he married Lucy B. Wellborn. After a year in Elbert he was attracted to Decatur and moved to De Kalb County in 1826, where for many years he worked a typical country practice. In 1854 he moved to Atlanta, where he resided until his death on March 13, 1875. The younger brother, James, joined the Doctor in Decatur in 1829, and there studied law in the office of Hines Holt. After admission to the bar in 1832, he practiced in Decatur until 1852, when he made Atlanta his permanent home. James M. Calhoun is best known as Atlanta's war mayor, serving from 1862 through 1865, the most difficult period in the city's history. He died October 1, 1875, and like his older brother, rests in Oakland.[35]

Another former mayor, Thomas F. Lowe, who served part of the year 1861, died in November at Mt. Airy, Georgia, and is buried in Oakland Cemetery. Hanka Muhlenbrink, 54, one of the oldest and best-known German citizens of Atlanta, died February 3rd. He was born in Hanover and was a charter member of Atlanta Fire Company No. 1. His grave in Oakland is unmarked. Colonel Bazalia Y. Sage, chief engineer and superintendent of the Air Line Railroad, died on June 23rd of heart disease at the early age of 41. He is also buried in Oakland.[36]

Two well-known De Kalb County families lost pioneer members during the year. Edwin A. Center, of near Lithonia, son of John and Julia Center, but himself a bachelor, died July 25th, age 62. Together with his parents, he is buried in the Rock Springs Cemetery near Lithonia. Jacob Chupp, born in Newberry District, South Carolina, in 1806, died July 17, 1875, a resident of Diamond's District, and lies buried in the family cemetery near his old home. Many of his descendants still reside in the Atlanta area.[37]

The loss of old citizens has always been offset by the arrival of new ones. To Atlanta, in 1875, came one who, if you seek his monument today, you have but to look around you. Joel Hurt, a young civil engineer, born in Hurtsboro, Alabama, 25 years before, cast his lot with Atlanta in March. That his arrival and subsequent residence here for fifty years was fortunate for the community will became manifest later.[38]

NOTES—CHAPTER 53

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 23, 1875.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] *Ibid.,* Dec. 3, 1874.
[4] *Annual Reports, City of Atlanta, 1899,* p. 584.
[5] Reed, *Atlanta,* 261.
[6] *Ibid.*
[7] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.
[8] Father of the late John E. Murphy, Atlanta banker and capitalist.
[9] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 7, 1875.
[10] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 20, 1932.
[11] Reed, *Atlanta,* 278; *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 99.
[12] Reed, *Atlanta,* 278.
[13] *Ibid.; Ga. Laws,* 1869, pp. 107-110.
[14] Reed, *Atlanta,* 279.
[15] *Ibid.; Ga. Laws,* 1870, pp. 388-393.
[16] Reed, *Atlanta,* 279-280.
[17] *Ibid.,* 280.
[18] *Atlanta Constitution,* March 25, 1875.
[19] *Ibid.*
[20] R. T. Scouden, of Louisville, Ky.
[21] *Atlanta Constitution,* June 17, 1875.
[22] September 12, 1875.
[23] Commissioners at the time were George W. Adair, E. E. Rawson, George W. Terry, W. B. Cox and Anthony Murphy.
[24] Record Postmasters, Fulton.
[25] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 77.
[26] Reed, *Atlanta,* 427; *Ga. Laws,* 1875, p. 123.
[27] *Atlanta Constitution,* Sept. 12, 1875.
[28] *Ibid.*
[29] *Ga. Laws,* 1875, p. 153.
[30] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* IX, 489.
[31] *Ibid.; City Directory,* 1876.
[32] Minutes W. & A. R. R. Co., 175-176.
[33] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 3, 1875.
[34] *Ibid.,* Mar. 21, 1875.
[35] "Garrett's Necrology."
[36] *Ibid.*
[37] *Ibid.*
[38] Thomas K. Glenn, "Joel Hurt (1850-1926)," *A.H.B.,* XXV (July, 1941), 216.

CHAPTER 54

1876

DIARIST S. P. Richards took pen in hand on New Year's day, 1876, and wrote:

"The gentlemen have been calling upon their lady friends today pretty freely and Dora [eldest daughter of S. P. R.] went to Mrs. Belle Abbott's house to assist her in receiving and they had some 60 callers. The first batch of visitors (some half dozen) they treated to coffee with salt which Sallie Kendrick had filled the sugar bowl with by mistake. And so we have entered upon the centennial year of American Independence."

On December 1, 1875, an election was held for one alderman-at-large, and for one member of council from each ward. Democratic candidates swept the field over Independents, resulting in the election of Oliver H. Jones as alderman-at-large for a three-year term. New councilmen were: first ward, George H. Gramling; second ward, E. P. Chamberlin; third ward, William Gray; fourth ward, Dr. Samuel Hape; fifth ward, Dr. Stephen T. Biggers.[1]

In connection with this election the *Constitution* commented:[2]

"The results of yesterday's election are of serious import. They mean first that this city has not only passed entirely and forever from the control of the Republican party, but that that party itself is hopelessly divided. It means, also, that many of our freedmen are learning wisdom, and the difference between real and pretended friends. They voted to suit themselves yesterday, and many of the prominent ones among them say that they mean to do it in the future."

An ordinance was adopted November 20, 1876, regulating the election of municipal officers. It provided that the regular annual election should be held on the first Wednesday of December of each year and every year, at which time there should be elected one alderman-at-large, and one councilman from each ward in the city. It also provided that at the next election held under the foregoing provision, and biennially thereafterward, there should be elected a mayor of the city.[3]

Ministerial officers serving Atlanta for 1876 were: clerk, Frank T. Ryan; treasurer, J. H. Goldsmith; recorder and auditor, J. T. Pendleton; attorney, W. T. Newman; engineer, H. T. McDaniel; tax receiver, J. O. Harris; superintendent alms house, W. F. Stewart; sexton, L. G. Holland; keeper city hall, J. W. Roberts; magazine keeper, J. C. Thurman; marshal, W. H. Holcombe; assessors, N. H. Turner, M. T. Simmons and N. R. Fowler.[4]

Twelve years had passed since the terrible war year of 1864, yet Atlantans were constantly being confronted with grim reminders of that trying time. On April 1, 1876, the *Constitution* inquired:

"When, indeed, shall we cease to confront the evidences of our late civil war? We cry out against the renewal of this unfortunate strife in the arena of politics and we meet upon each other's native soil and shake hands in renewed fraternity to the glorius music of the union. But, every day nearly, we are brought face to face with some relic, some lasting effect, or some before undeveloped horror of those days of bloody and destructive war."

All of which was the prelude to a long news story relative to a grisly discovery made on the afternoon of March 31st. A man named Hokes, who resided in the square bounded by Rawson, Fraser, Martin and Clarke streets, employed a Negro man to plow his garden. When nearly through, and on a slope in rear of the yard, the Negro felt a certain spot of earth yield somewhat. At about the fourth crossing of the spot, the horse's foot very nearly broke through the soil, and a moment later the point of the plow struck under and lifted up a rotten plank.

Thinking he had uncovered an old unfilled well, the Negro so informed Mr. Hokes. The latter secured as axe and began to pry up the planks so as to ascertain the depth of the supposed well. But the boards did not yield easily. They proved to be an inch thick and spiked down with large nails. After much labor sufficient planking had been removed so that, with the aid of lanterns, the men could look down into the excavation. A ghastly sight met their eyes.

A room had been cut in the side of the hill of sufficient size to accommodate two persons comfortably for sleeping. It had been walled in with plank and the board roof, supported by wooden pillars was now rotten and crumbling. Dirt had sifted through and mould had gathered until the place had the odor and atmosphere of a tomb for living sacrifices. Such it proved to be. Out of the dirt and rubbish and oozy mud made in the hole by the seepage of recent rains, there protruded the bones of a human body.

Spades were brought into action. In addition to the bones, the remains of a bed, an iron pot, two knives, one fork, a plate, a mouldy boot, and other domestic utensils came to light. Then more bones were found, which indicated that two persons had perished in the dugout.

An old Negro woman who lived in the vicinity during the war was present and said that during the siege of the city the man who lived on the lot had built a bombproof for himself and wife, in which they always passed the night to escape the flying shells of the summer of 1864. She remembered them well, but could not tell their names. She only recollected that he was a foreigner and kept a confectionary stand in those days.

Circumstances indicated that the unfortunate persons met their fate while asleep in their supposed abode of safety, by the caving in of the front portion of the room, resulting in their suffocation. Like young Lovell's bride, who sought a hiding place in an old oak chest, the unknown Atlanta couple found, in their hiding place, a grave.

Postal facilities in Fulton and De Kalb continued to increase during 1876. The brand new town of Clarkston, in De Kalb County on the Georgia Railroad, though not incorporated until 1882, was made a post office on October 9th, with James J. Norman as first postmaster. The tract of land upon which the town was originally located was formerly owned by the Georgia Railroad. When the land was subdivided and sold, the town was named for Colonel W. W. Clark, a prominent lawyer of Covington and a director of the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company.[5]

The long non-existent town of Edwardsville, seven miles northeast of Atlanta on the Air-Line (Southern) Railroad, was made a post office on December 26th, with Hiram Edwards as postmaster. The office was discontinued in October, 1892.[6] Meanwhile, in Atlanta on June 30, 1875, Benjamin Conley, former short-time governor, then a resident of West End, succeeded Dr. Samuel Bard as postmaster. He served until 1883, two years before his death.[7]

Atlanta, long a magnet for newspaper ventures, attracted several short-lived efforts in 1876. The Atlanta *Courier* was started on February 22nd by Robert A. Alston and Henry W. Grady after the *Herald* folded. After a financially embarrassed career it died in three weeks. The Atlanta *Times* and the Atlanta *Telegram,* the latter published by Bridges W. Smith, lasted only a short time. Another Grady venture during the year was the *Sunday Telegram.* It remained in business five weeks.[8] The *De Kalb News* was established at Stone Mountain in December, 1876, by the Messrs. Carter, two young men of enterprise and ability.[9]

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Loyd Street (now Central Ave.) looking south from Decatur Street, 1876. Building with porch on left is the Markham House, a noted hotel of the period. Church of the Immaculate Conception in background. Total traffic, one wagon and three wheel barrows

It was a big year, however, for the *Constitution,* which secured three editorial associates who were to bring it national recognition—Henry W. Grady, Sam W. Small and Joel Chandler Harris.[10]

Harris was born in Putnam County, Georgia, in 1848. He evinced an early interest in matters literary, and at twelve found a place as printer's boy in the office of a plantation paper called the *Countryman* in his native county. Soon after the war Harris sought wider journalistic fields, and found work successively at Macon, New Orleans and Savannah. In the latter place he was employed on the editorial staff of the *Morning News,* and while there married Miss Esther La Rose, of Canada, in 1873. In the summer of 1876 an epidemic of yellow fever broke out in Savannah, and Harris, who then had two children, resigned his position with the *News* and moved to Atlanta.[11]

Even under the most trying circumstances, Harris never lost his sense of humor. When he arrived at the Kimball House for a few days' stay, he registered as follows: "J. C. Harris, one wife, two bowlegged children, and a bilious nurse." Indeed, his fund of amusing anecdotes did so much to cheer his fellow refugees at the hotel that he was not even charged for the brief sojourn.[12]

Harris had known Henry W. Grady for several years, and the very day after Captain Evan P. Howell employed the latter, Grady made his old friend an offer of $25 a week as editorial paragrapher. Thus began an association between Joel Chandler Harris and the *Constitution* that was to last for 24 years. Two years after becoming associated with the *Constitution,* Harris began to enrich its columns with his now world-renowned "Uncle Remus" stories. They insured his immortality.[13]

The historic engagement of Edwin Booth, from which local play-goers counted theatrical events during all their remaining years, occurred February 21-24, 1876. That winter Booth played south of Baltimore on the Atlantic seaboard for the first time since 1859.[14]

Beginning February 12th this advertisement appeared for nine days in the *Constitution:*

DE GIVE'S OPERA HOUSE

EDWIN BOOTH

Under the management of J. T. Ford

"They are coming to the play:
Get you a place."—Hamlet.

Mr. Ford having effected an engagement with the most eminent and distinguished actor of "The English Speaking Stage," has much pleasure in announcing his appearance in Atlanta for a limited number of classic personations.

Monday, February 21—PRINCE HAMLET.
Tuesday, February 22—CARDINAL RICHELIEU.
Wednesday, February 23—IAGO in OTHELLO.
Thursday, February 24—Cardinal Wolsey in "HENRY 8TH," and Petruchio in "TAMING THE SHREW."

The sale of places will take place at Phillips & Crew's music store, commencing Wednesday, February 16th, at 9 a.m. No orders prior to that date and hour will be received.

Booth arrived at four o'clock Sunday afternoon, the 20th, at which time several hundred people were crowded around the east end of the Union Station in the hope of seeing him when he crossed to the recently opened Markham House. But the crowd was disappointed for Booth alighted from the train near Pryor Street, crossed the street and reached the hotel by the opposite sidewalk. He was safely inside almost before the populace discovered their hero. A reporter who called that evening was met by Mr. Ford who informed him that Mr. Booth was tired, and, moreover, seldom undertook to see anyone.[15]

The next day city council, which then held its regular sessions in the evening, met at three in the afternoon so that the city fathers might see *Hamlet.* Atlanta never saw a more crowded house. Seats were placed in the aisles, too, for in 1876 there were no fire regulations to say them nay.

Hamlet inspired a good press. The *Constitution* said:

> "It was the outpouring tribute of our people in honor of a great and almost peerless artist, . . . and *Hamlet* walked the stage, while the actor was forgotten. Booth was repeatedly called before the curtain, and at the close received a perfect ovation of applause and cheers.
>
> "The support was very good, and while overshadowed by the brightness of the master spirit, presented no jarring contrasts, and for this Manager Ford is to be thanked, for Southern audiences are too often imposed upon in this respect."[16]

The other appearances of Mr. Booth were equally well received. Indeed, in the matter of receipts, Atlanta was the second-best city that he had yet visited on his Southern trip.[17]

From time immemorial the railroads and iron had been basic partners. By the 1870's, however, steel was beginning to replace the older metal, particularly for rail. President Joseph E. Brown, of the Western & Atlantic, illustrated the point in his annual report for 1876. He said:

> "We have contracted, as is known to some of the lessees, for 200,000 tons of steel rail, at $50 per ton at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This we think an advantageous contract, and when the additional 21 miles of road is laid with steel, which will be done as the season advances, it will naturally diminish the expense the coming year. And as we lay down steel rail from year to year, I trust we may look for a continued diminution of expenses in proportion to the increase of the steel rail laid down. I think the direction of the Executive Committee in reference to the substitution of steel rail for iron rail a very judicious one, and it has met my cordial cooperation."[18]

Washington Street, by the middle '70's, was becoming one of the city's choicest residential thoroughfares. S. P. Richards was, in fact, beginning to doubt if he could afford to stay there. On August 6, 1876, he wrote:

"Bro. Green B. Adair, who married Addie Marsh, the heiress, is putting up a fine fancy brick mansion on the Holbrook lot [southeast corner Trinity Avenue, then Peters Street] which I consider will enhance the market value of my property here [corner Fair Street] at least $500. This region is getting too aristocratic for me, or rather for my purse and I think I shall have to sell out for a big price and build a comfortable house in a cheaper locality, if I could build at all soon. Yet I should much dislike to leave this lot—it is so pleasant, pretty and just near enough to town."

Mr. Richards did not leave until death overtook him in 1910 at 86.

About this time city council was entertaining the idea of changing the name of Collins Street to North Washington Street. The proposal inspired an indignant letter to the editors of the *Constitution:*

"At the last meeting of the city council we noticed with surprise that a committee, to whom the matter had been referred, reported in favor of changing the name of Collins Street to North Washington Street. We noticed with still more surprise that the council adopted the report of the committee and directed an ordinance to be drawn making the change.

"This action we think was hasty and premature and should be reconsidered. The proposed change of name is wrong. Many years ago Washington Street was known as Collins, and was changed to Washington for the reason that there was no connection across the Georgia Railroad. For no other reason, Mr. James A. Collins, after whom said street was named, was one of the pioneers of Atlanta. He was an enterprising and worthy citizen, a good merchant and business man, respected for his virtues by his fellow townsmen, who at that early day saw fit to name the street for him. The name is short and euphoneous. It is blended with the early history of Atlanta, and is designated on the maps of the city and also upon the records both of the city and county in such a way that it is unwise to make the change at this late day.

"Besides, if our city council encourages this changing of the names of our streets, when and where will it stop? With equal propriety they may change the names of Calhoun, Ivy, Loyd, Pryor, Peachtree, Whitehall and a host of others, at the suggestion of any fastidious gentleman who might imagine himself shamed of the obscurity or low origin from whence the names of said streets sprung. Let council reconsider.

CITIZEN."[19]

This letter, plus other possible influences, averted the name change. Some years later, however, Collins Street, with the exception of a short stretch between Decatur Street and the railroad, became Courtland Street. Later two other streets mentioned by "Citizen" acquired new names—Loyd Street became Central Avenue and Calhoun became Piedmont Avenue. The trend was regrettable.

An historic corner changed hands on December 27, 1876, when Thomas Kile's old stand, present site of the William-Oliver Building, and the spot upon which Atlanta's first municipal election was held in 1848, was sold at public outcry by George W. Adair. It was knocked down to Thomas G. Healey for $11,500,[20] and is today owned by his descendants. In 1877 Mr. Healey improved the property by the erection of the first Healey Building, an ornate three-story structure.

Local banking facilities were enhanced in 1876 when the Merchant's Bank of Atlanta, successor to the State National Bank of Georgia, was chartered. Original officers were Campbell Wallace, president, and W. W. Clayton, cashier.[21]

Indeed, the rapid growth of banking facilities during the 1870's merely represented a response to a demand, for local wealth, hard times notwithstanding, was on the increase. Following is a list of firms and citizens who paid taxes on property worth $20,000 or more during 1876:

Adair & Brothers	$ 31,800
Archer, Mrs. E. A.	20,250
Angier, N. L., Dr.	41,500
Atlanta Savings Bank	93,020
Abbott & Bro.	23,240
Atlanta Fire Ins. Co.	22,050
Atlanta National Bank	300,000
Austell, A.	122,550
Alexander, Thomas	130,325
Adair, G. W.	49,100
Adair & Kimball	251,000
Broad, John	24,100
Bank of State of Ga.	137,850
Butler, James E.	38,000
Bloomfield, M.	25,700
Brown, Joseph E.	142,525
Berry, M. R.	54,000
Brotherton, W. H.	54,600
Bates, Edwin & Co.	25,000
Berry, M. B.	21,000
Ball, James M.	44,350
Banks, Henry, Sr.	39,200
Bleckley, L. E.	25,250
Block, F. E.	21,000
Chamberlin, Boynton & Co.	55,600
Connally, E. L., Dr.	20,500
Collier, John, Sr.	51,450
Crane, Boyleston & Co.	36,900
Cox, Hill & Thompson	91,000
Cox, W. B.	35,900
Callaway, James H.	37,000
Clarke, T. M.	41,300
Clarke, T. M. & Co.	65,200
Collier, G. W.	34,000
Chisolm, W. P.	59,000
Chisolm, R. E., Mrs.	20,900
Crichton, J. P., Dr.	52,900
Calhoun, J. M. (estate of	22,450
Corry, H., Mrs.	$ 20,000
Citizen's Bank	190,400
Cook, Gunby & Co.	32,900
Castleberry & Co.	20,300
Clarke, R. M.	25,900
Central Railroad	24,500
Cook & Cheek	56,000
Connally, T. W. & E. L.	31,000
Dodd, P. & G. T. & Co.	89,700
Dean, Lem., Sr.	21,400
Duncan, Mary E.	27,380
Dougherty, Mary E., Mrs.	74,000
De Give, L.	57,800
Davis, J. C.	25,000
Elsas, May & Co.	27,950
English, J. W.	49,550
Eddleman & Brown	25,000
Faith & Morris	20,170
Friedman & Co.	21,700
Grant, L. P.	116,350
Garrett & Bro.	35,200
Grant, W. D., Mrs.	21,900
Grant, J. T. & W. D.	111,800
Grant, J. T.	58,550
Georgia National Bank	50,000
Gaskill, V. A.	27,550
Georgia Banking & Trust Co.	100,000
Howell, Clark, Jr.	33,700
Healey, T. G.	47,700
Hayden & Healey	63,000
Healey, Berry & Co.	55,000
Healey & Berry	22,000
Holland, E. W., Sr.	53,250
Hayden, J. A., Judge	54,900
Haralson, M. & Co.	20,000
Hill, W. R.	22,900
Howard, G. J.	24,950

Hill, John M.	$ 26,020
Hunt, Rankin & Lamar	30,000
Holbrook, John	24,470
Hillyer, George	29,950
Hammond, N. J.	40,550
Hoyt, S. B.	26,300
Howard, Wood & Co.	24,150
Harville, W. H.	30,520
Hirsch, M. & J.	24,700
Hunnicutt & Bellingrath	32,500
Hunnicutt, C. W.	30,400
Howard, Misses E. & A.	20,000
Inman, S. M.	57,850
Jones, O. H.	53,250
Jones, E. C.	24,000
James, John H.	159,350
Jack & Holland	30,200
Kimbro, R. P. S.	30,000
Kiser & Watson	20,000
Kidd, William	102,400
King, H. B., Trustee.	27,000
Keely, John	33,600
Lynch, M.	21,540
Lawshe, Er	31,450
Lynch, J. & J.	24,000
Lynch, John	25,300
Lee, S. W.	20,000
Lowe, W. B. & Co.	32,200
Lowe, W. B.	29,720
Lynch, Peter	32,450
Lowry, W. M. & R. J.	73,000
Leyden, R. C., Mrs.	39,950
Lochrane, O. A., Judge, Trustee	104,000
Longley & Robinson.	42,950
Morrison, Bain & Co.	25,000
McNaught & Scrutchins	63,000
Markham, William	133,250
Moore, Marsh & Co.	247,500
Moore, W. A.	21,000
Marsh, E. W.	21,500
McCroskey, L. M., Miss	30,000
Miller, H. V. M., Dr.	20,300
Merriam, A. B.	25,850
Maddox & Rucker	28,000
McArthur, T. W.	23,600
Mitchell, A. W.	32,500
Muhlenbrink, H., Estate of	32,000
McMillan & Snow	30,650
Morris, C. C.	$ 32,900
Norcross, J.	54,000
Nunnally, Hallman & Co.	26,740
Neal, John, Sr.	74,300
North American Ice Co.	25,000
Porter, J. H.	28,150
Peck, J. C.	41,450
Parrott, G. W. & Bro.	21,800
Patillo, W. P.	24,780
Plant, H. H.	60,600
Peters, Richard	140,100
Rawson, E. E.	92,200
Ryan, John	143,170
Rawson, W. A.	92,750
Rice & Mitchell	27,640
Rice, F. P.	25,285
Richards, J. J. & S. P.	32,150
Rice, Z. A.	24,840
Root, Sidney	23,500
Sheehan, Con.	26,550
Simson, W. W.	24,000
Stewart, Wood & Fain.	25,000
Stewart, Austin & Co.	21,000
Silvey & Dougherty	42,630
Silvey & Glazener	25,000
State National Bank	200,000
Solomon, Wm. (Estate of)	64,370
Stephens & Flynn	25,000
Seago, A. K.	36,825
Thurman, F. D., Dr.	46,000
Turner, E. B., Mrs.	36,000
Thrower, Thomas L.	20,550
Thompson, Joseph, Dr.	47,650
Tanner, J. B.	35,590
Tommey, Stewart & Beck	46,000
Turner, Agnes, Mrs.	25,750
Wilson, B. J.	43,000
Wylie, James R. & Co.	45,700
Winship, Joseph	23,700
Williams, Langston & Crane	89,700
Williams, N. C.	31,300
Winter, J. L.	32,100
Wyly, A. C. & B. F.	172,200
West, Edwards & Co.	30,000
Williams, F. A.	23,300
Williams, J. J. & Co.	30,000[22]

The gubernatorial contest of 1876, for a successor to Governor James M. Smith was outstandingly one-sided. The Democratic nominee, Alfred H. Colquitt, defeated the Republican nominee, Jonathan Norcross, of Atlanta, by a majority of 77,854 votes.[23] The new governor took office January 12, 1877.

He had been nominated at a convention held at the Kimball House on August 2nd, over a field including former governor H. V. Johnson, John H. James, of Atlanta, and Thomas Hardeman, Jr., all of whom withdrew in Colquitt's favor.[24]

Alfred Holt Colquitt, son of the noted Walter T. Colquitt, was born in Walton County, Georgia, in 1824, and had already had a distinguished career as a lawyer, preacher and soldier. He was to die a United States Senator from Georgia in 1894.[25]

A number of pioneer and well-known citizens of Fulton and De Kalb counties answered the final summons during 1876.

Cary W. Berry, 42, a native of Newton County, resident of Atlanta since boyhood, and a popular railroad man, died January 9th. Dr. William Larned Cleveland, ante-bellum homeopathic physician, and originally of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, died May 20th, age 67. Former Atlanta postmaster, Thomas G. Simms, 50, died May 25th, while Aaron Alexander, founder of a well-known Atlanta family, and a native of Charleston, South Carolina, died June 1st, age 65, at his residence on the present site of the Norris Building.[26]

James E. Butler, 42, a fine business man, proprietor, with W. S. Carroll, of the City Flouring Mills on Bartow Street, met a tragic fate in his own establishment on June 28th. While descending a flight of steps he stumbled and fell on the belting attached to a pulley wheel. He was drawn under the wheel and catapulted with terrific force against a post. Death resulted instantly.[27]

Absolom Baker, founder and proprietor of Baker's Ferry, downstream from Green and Howell's across the Chattahoochee, died August 1st, age 65. He is buried in his family cemetery on the Cobb County side of the river. The Rev. Reuben E. Oslin, a Methodist minister and former resident of Atlanta, died January 24th in Fredonia, Alabama. Forrest Avenue was once called Oslin Street in his honor.[28]

Among De Kalb County casualties of the year were Michael Winningham, Thomas Jefferson Dean, and John W. Fowler, Sr., and Jr. Winningham, age 64, died April 12th. He is reputed to have dug the first grave in the Stone Mountain cemetery. Dean, also a resident of Stone Mountain District, was a native of Greenville District, South Carolina, and was a brother of Lemuel Dean of Atlanta. He died August 14th, age 74, and is buried on the old home place. Colonel John W. Fowler, a veteran of the Creek War of 1836, was also from Greenville District, and was a pioneer of the Indian Creek neighborhood. He died November 19th, age 71. His son, John W. Fowler, Jr., was a popular conductor on the Macon & Brunswick Railroad, and died in the latter city, of yellow fever, on October 14th, age 37. Father and son are buried in the old Indian Creek Cemetery. The latter's epitaph is poignant:

What to us is life without thee
Darkness and despair alone;
When with sighs we seek to find thee,
This tomb proclaims that thou are gone.[29]

NOTES—CHAPTER 54

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 261; *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 2, 1875.
[2] Dec. 2, 1875.
[3] Reed, *Atlanta,* 262.
[4] *City Directory,* 1876.
[5] Record Postmasters, De Kalb; Candler, "De Kalb County," 20.
[6] Record Postmasters, Fulton.
[7] *Ibid.*
[8] Feldman, "Checklist Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 49-50.
[9] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 27, 1876.
[10] Nixon, *Henry W. Grady,* 127; city directories, 1876-1877.
[11] *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* I, 410; Julia Collier Harris, *The Life and Letters of Joel Chandler Harris* (Boston, 1918) 128.
[12] Harris, *Joel C. Harris,* 128-129.
[13] *Ibid.,* 131-132-143.
[14] Meta Barker, "Some High Lights of The Old Atlanta Stage," *A.H.B.,* II (Jan., 1928), 37.
[15] *Ibid.,* 39.
[16] *Ibid.*
[17] *Ibid.,* 40.
[18] Minutes W. & A. R. R. Co., 195.
[19] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 18, 1876.
[20] *Ibid.,* Dec. 28, 1876.
[21] Reed, *Atlanta,* 427; *Ga. Laws,* 1876, p. 219.
[22] *Atlanta Constitution,* Aug. 13, 1875.
[23] Avery, *History of Georgia,* 519.
[24] *Ibid.,* 516-517.
[25] Northen, ed., *Men of Mark in Georgia,* III, 67.
[26] "Garrett's Necrology."
[27] *Ibid.*
[28] *Ibid.*
[29] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 55

1877

NEW YEAR'S day, eighteen seventy-seven was a good day to stay at home. Mr. Richards recorded, on January 1st:

"When we arose this morning the ground was all covered with snow three inches deep! The horse cars struggled with it all day but finally succumbed."

The city election, held December 6, 1876, was even more quiet than its immediate predecessors. Commented the *Constitution*:

"There was no electioneering, no crowds, no liquor, and no quarrelling, and there came pretty near being no voting."[1]

Dr. N. L. Angier, pioneer Atlantan, had no opposition worthy of mention for the post of mayor, and was elected by a total of 189 votes.[2] M. T. Castleberry was elected alderman-at-large for the three year term. New councilmen were, Michael E. Maher, first ward; George J. Dallas, second ward; J. M. Buice, third ward; Charles K. Maddox, fourth ward, and James W. English, fifth ward. Alderman J. C. McMillan served as mayor pro-tem for the year.[3] Ministerial officers for 1877 were the same as for 1876.[4]

The mayor and council of 1877 was the first to take cognizance of the street traffic problem. On March 5th an ordinance was adopted regulating traffic which prohibited driving more than five unhaltered mules between 8:30 A.M., and 5:30 P.M. Violation was punishable by a fine not exceeding $100 and/or a month's imprisonment.[5]

By Act of the legislature approved February 26, 1877, the mayor and council of Atlanta were relieved of any further responsibility and expense in connection with the county alms house. That institution became the ward of the Fulton County ordinary.[6]

Only two changes were made in Fulton County officials in 1877. On January 20th, William Ezzard succeeded A. G. Grier as receiver of tax returns, and Samuel R. Hoyle became tax collector in lieu of W. S. Walker. In De Kalb County, on January 23rd, H. V. Bayne succeeded John B. Steward as ordinary; W. J. Williams succeeded C. W. Johnson as receiver of tax returns; James T. Veal succeeded J. N. Nash as tax collector, and T. L. Evans succeeded M. A. Veal as coroner.[7]

Immediately following the fall of the Bullock regime and the return of the Democrats to power in Georgia, an agitation arose for a new State constitution. The method by which the Constitution of 1868 had been formed and imposed upon the people was resented, regardless of its intrinsic merits. The end of the Reconstruction Era did not come, in fact, until after the national election of 1876, when federal soldiers, who had been stationed in the South to support the military government, were finally withdrawn.[8]

Throughout that year the need of a new constitution was urged by the press and through the presentments of numerous grand juries. Consequently, in 1877, a bill by Allen D. Candler, then a representative from Hall County, was passed providing for the submission of the question of holding a convention to popular vote. The election, held in June, resulted favorably for the convention.[9]

On July 11, 1877, the convention, composed of 185 delegates, assembled in the State House on Marietta Street in Atlanta, and were called to order by Lucius J. Gartrell, a delegate from Fulton County. Former governor Charles J. Jenkins was elected permanent president of the convention. The large number of delegates necessitated the use of a system of committees. Thirteen standing committees, representing the thirteen articles of the existing constitution (that of 1868) were appointed, consisting of nine members each.[10]

After one month the Convention had spent its appropriation of $25,000, and though its work was incomplete, the State Treasurer refused to honor further drafts, in which action he was backed by Governor Colquitt. Then Robert Toombs, a leading member of the Convention, and chairman of its Committee on Revision came to the rescue and personally advanced some $20,000, which the State later repaid. Finally, on August 25th, the Convention completed its work, and the new document was submitted to the people, who approved it on December 5th, by a vote of 110,442 to 40,947.[11]

At the same time Atlanta was confirmed as the State Capital over Milledgeville by a majority of 99,147 to 55,201. On December 21, 1877, Governor Colquitt proclaimed the new Constitution to be in effect. Both Senators John B. Gordon and Benjamin H. Hill had supported the new Constitution, although Governor Colquitt gave it only passive approval as the best available at the time.[12]

The adoption of the Constitution of 1877 might be said to mark Georgia's final and complete emergence from Reconstruction and its effects—most particularly in the matter of the careless use of public funds.

The *Atlanta Constitution* of March 11, 1877, under the heading "Brick and Mortar," gives us a good contemporary picture of building operations in downtown Atlanta:

"The main business streets of Atlanta are well built up as a rule. There are long rows of handsome brick stores, three and four stories high, which would be a credit to any city. The main drawback to the appearance of the principal streets has hitherto been the presence of a few of the shabby little stores erected in the hasty poverty of 1865 upon the most valuable property in the city. These are happily fast disappearing before the constant advance of improvements. Last spring the row of shanties next to the railroad on Whitehall Street, were torn down, and in their place we now have the elegant 'Centennial Building.'[13] The huckster stands on the corner of Marietta and Forsyth were removed to give place to the fine new Grant Building, which is an ornament to the city.[14] The unsightly old brick building at the corner of Alabama and Pryor streets was removed for the complete 'Wilson House,' which now stands there.[15] Similar improvements took place in various parts of the city, and the result is that Atlanta is a much handsomer place than it was one year ago.

"It is gratifying to know that the spirit of improvement will be as active during the coming spring as it was last. Already a number of fine brick buildings are planned and everything is made ready for beginning work early in April.

"The old Kile corner, which has so long frowned on Marietta and Peachtree streets is to be greatly improved. The old brick building is now being torn down, and as soon as the rubbish is removed Captain T. G. Healey will commence the erection of handsome three-story brick buildings, which will be quite modern looking, and will command a view of four streets.

"The small buildings immediately adjoining the Kile corner are also to be torn down, and Mr. M. R. Berry will build in their place a two-story brick building on the most approved style, and furnished with the latest appliances.

"On Whitehall Street, the small stores between the Centennial Building and the Muhlenbrink Building will be removed in about two weeks, and Captain William Kidd will commence the erection of another building something on the same style as the one he has just completed, and fully as handsome.[16] This will greatly aid the appearance of this, one of the busiest quarters in the city.

"Numerous other buildings will be erected during the spring, but as very little space remains in the heart of the city, the business streets will have to be extended to give room to our growing trade. Scores of dwellings, some of which are already begun, will be finished during the year.

"It is safe to predict that the building of 1877 will greatly improve the appearance of the city, increase the value of real estate largely, induce many to come and reside in our live city, give employment to hundreds of workmen, and bring many other benefits upon us."

The advent of spring and the general improvement and sprucing up of the business section may have inspired James W. Roberts, keeper of the city hall and grounds (present site of the State Capitol) to improve his own domain. But whatever the reason, improved it was. The project inspired favorable comment by the *Constitution*:[17]

"These who have not noticed the city hall square for a month or more will hardly recognize it when they next see it. The acres of rank clover and grass, growing for use as hay, are transformed into a handsome park, and the improvements going on daily are adding attractions which will shortly make the spot a sought for oasis in the hard, smoky, busy limits of the modern city. . . .

"A handsome landscape has been acquired by the aid of a landscape gardener, and the city engineer, which latter surveyed the walks that have been cut and graded in the park. These walks are both straight and serpentine and are so run as to leave ample lawns and bedding places for shrubs and flowers. There are some dozen furlongs or more of these walks, which are as smooth and level as a floor, giving most admirable ways for baby-carriages, velocipedes and the children, who can find no place better adapted for their sports and exercises. Council has ordered the thorough sanding of these walks and soon they will be as firm and smooth as asphaltum or shell-road avenues.

"The trees already planted and growing in regular order will soon afford very inviting shade, and recently Mr. Roberts has set out 36 handsome young magnolias. He has also put out some new silver poplars and some rare trees of foreign nativity. In time these will be the very choicest ornaments of the park.

"In the circle nearest to Washington Street it is designed to have erected a large and beautiful fountain. . . . The second circle across the avenue is to be graced with a handsome pagoda music stand, where a brass band can find comfortable conveniences and from which discourse sweet music to the crowds that will flock to the park during the summer afternoons. A large, tall flagstaff may be erected from its center upon which to display the national colors upon all holidays and notable occasions.

"The unsightly brick building containing the closets is to be removed at once; and those conveniences are to be located under the small room of the Clerk's office; are to be seven in number, including divisions for ladies and gentlemen; to be supplied with water and kept in charge by an attendant. This improvement has long been needed.

"For pleasure and play there are various other arrangements being perfected. There will be lawn places set apart for parties of ladies and gentlemen who play croquet. These will be properly prepared and bounded and afford opportunities for enjoying the games which few private yards furnish.

"Seats are to be placed all about the park, in the shape of small wooden settees. Boxes have been placed among the trees, in which scores of bluebirds and sparrows are building their nests. Signs will be erected warning the boys and all others against stoning the birds or running on the grass plots.

"All this work is put upon the park at exceeding small expense, and the manner in which his slender means have been used reflects credit upon the task and management of Mr. Roberts, the keeper, who is an admirable man for the place. Council should stand up to him in this labor, for we know our people will largely enjoy the place of resort he has so skillfully and handsomely provided for them."

Seven years later this beauty spot was to disappear, when the site was cleared for the present Capitol building.

Another Mecca for Atlantans of this period, especially on Sunday afternoons, was McPherson Barracks, between the city and West End. The popularity of the band concerts and dress parades inspired the *Constitution* to comment, on May 16, 1877:

". . . The magnificent post band, under the leadership of Professor Gibson, is, perhaps, the finest in the whole South. It is composed of about thirty artists, thoroughly educated and trained by long practice.

"The band plays every afternoon about three o'clock, and later at the dress parades. . . . The companies [ten in number] are well drilled, and when the regiment is in line it presents a fine appearance.

"On Sunday afternoons the dress parades are invariably attended by immense crowds from the city. The laboring classes find the place quite attractive, and go to enjoy the military spectacle, and to hear the rare music. Thousands of negroes, attracted by the glitter of bayonets and the flash of brass buttons, crowd around the parade grounds, and find there perfect happiness.

"Last Sunday afternoon no less than 500 people witnessed the parade. The crowd formed a line almost around the whole grounds, and seemed highly delighted with the display. A number of ladies and gentlemen from the city rode out in buggies and carriages, so that the main drives were filled with vehicles.

"During the spring and summer the same thing is repeated every Sunday afternoon. There is no public park or place of general recreation and people must have excitement of some kind.

"The neatness of the barracks is noticeable. Everything seems to be always kept in perfect order. The soldiers, when on parade, are models of military dress and look as spruce as the pictures of our revolutionary forefathers. Both officers and privates are uniformly courteous to citizens and seem really glad to see the large crowds who go to look at the show."

On the informative side, Atlanta secured a new library and a short-lived newspaper during 1877.

The first officers of the Catholic Library Association, organized that year, were Joseph F. Burke, president; R. D. Spalding, vice president; A. C. Ford, treasurer; John M. Graham, secretary, and John H. Flynn, E. Van Goidsnoven, P. J. Moran, W. B. Cox, John Stephens, M. H. Dooley, John Doonan, and Joseph Gatins, directors. The object of the association was the dissemination of Catholic literature and knowledge generally. Original headquarters were at 28 East Alabama Street.[18]

The *Atlanta Daily Tribune* was published from December, 1877, for two or three months by Charles H. Williams, formerly of the *Columbus Times*.[19]

Only once in its history, prior to 1877, had Atlanta been honored by a visit from a president of the United States. That occasion was in 1854, and the visitor was ex-President Millard Fillmore. On September 22, 1877, the city was privileged to welcome a president in office, though his election had been bitterly contested and he had not received the support of the people of the South. Even so, the coming of Rutherford B. Hayes was a happy occasion, marking as it did the end of a long series of unfortunate conditions that had existed since the war. The President came as a messenger of good will seeking to establish a fraternal feeling between the North and the South.[20]

After rousing demonstrations in his honor in Louisville, Nashville, Chattanooga and Knoxville, the presidential party, including Mrs. Hayes, Secretary of State Evarts, and Postmaster General Key, arrived in Atlanta on September 22nd, where they were met by a reception committee. After a tour of the city in carriages, during which the growth of the city since the war was narrated, the party arrived at the Markham House, where a vast crowd had been assembled since ten-thirty that morning.[21]

Every available inch of space within seeing and hearing distance of the hotel was occupied. The porticoes and windows of the hotel were enlivened by the fair faces and costumes of the ladies, which, together with fluttering flags and festoons of cedar, hung for the occasion, formed a picturesque background for the surging crowd in the street. Before the presidential party arrived at the hotel, the crowd began to manifest impatience, but before that feeling could resolve itself into anything like preconcerted action, the trumpets blew, the military took position, and those who had been waiting knew that their vigil was over. A pleasant breeze was blowing, and though the crowd was not as enthusiastic as the occasion might seem to demand, it made up in good humor. Flags fluttered, the band played, and the people cheered as the presidential party came up.[22]

The president was escorted to a temporary stand and introduced to Governor Colquitt by Mayor Angier. The governor welcomed the president to the State of Georgia in a brief and hearty speech, to which Mr. Hayes responded in a manner and sentiment that elicited frequent interruptions of applause and approval. The Messrs. Evarts and Key followed the president with appropriate remarks. The last speaker, Governor Wade Hampton, of South Carolina, the former dashing Confederate leader, elicited thunderous applause from the assembled multitude.[23]

That evening Governor and Mrs. Colquitt were hosts to President and Mrs. Hayes, and members of their party, at a brilliant reception in the Executive Mansion at Peachtree and Cain streets. It was a social event long remembered, particularly by the some one thousand leading Atlantans privileged to meet the honor guests. There was general regret when, at nine-thirty the president and his lady were compelled to leave in order to board a special train at ten-thirty for Chattanooga.[24]

Before his death, in 1893, Mr. Hayes made a second visit to Atlanta in 1889, when, with a group of distinguished men, he stopped here for a day and a night. Upon this occasion the group was entertained by the then governor, General John B. Gordon.[25]

Alexander Graham Bell's remarkable 1876 invention, the telephone, also came to Atlanta in 1877. And though it arrived with considerably less fanfare than did President Hayes, it was to have a much more significant and lasting effect upon the local population, then and now.

The pioneer local user of telephone service was the Western & Atlantic Railroad, when, in November, 1877, its passenger agent's office and the Union Station were connected by the new speaking device. By 1879 the city could boast a modest telephone exchange in one of the upper rooms of the Kimball House. It had a total of 55 subscribers, and the forward-looking name of the National Bell Telephone Company. The name was constricted somewhat in 1880 to the Atlanta Telephone Exchange, with Henry H. Jackson as superintendent. In 1881 headquarters were moved to 21½ Marietta Street, corner Broad, and late that year the company was purchased by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company. Jackson continued as local manager until 1884, when he became assistant to William T. Gentry, the new manager.[26]

The year of Mr. Gentry's original stewardship of the new public utility, saw the publication of a directory, printed on one side of one sheet and listing 315 subscribers. Only 63, or 20 per cent were residence numbers. In 1950, 66.6 per cent of Atlanta's 200,460 phones were residential. In 1884 the sole long distance circuit extended only to Decatur, the toll being 15 cents for each five minutes or fraction thereof. Subscribers who had occasion to call Decatur frequently could buy books of 20 and 40 tickets. The original telephone operators were boys, but their practice of talking back to subscribers in rough and ready language led to their replacement by women operators beginning in 1888.[27]

Further development of the telephone business in Atlanta will be elaborated in subsequent chapters.

Among the well-known local citizens whose careers were closed by death during 1877 were four leading members of the bar, a pioneer physician, and a pioneer artist.

Colonel Robert Baugh, an early settler of West End and distinguished lawyer, died January 2nd, age 63. Augustus J. Hulsey, a rising young attorney and a son of pioneer citizen Eli J. Hulsey, died February 17th at the early age of 30. Judge Cincinnatus Peeples, who, in January, 1876, had succeeded John L. Hopkins as judge of the superior court of the Atlanta circuit, died June 1st at 50. Only two days after receiving his commission Judge Peeples began a long and arduous term of court upon which he labored with such untiring zeal and energy that he undermined his health and became an invalid for some time preceding his death. Colonel Amos W. Hammond, founder of a noted Atlanta family, was born in South Carolina in 1807 and passed his early life in Franklin County, Georgia. While engaged in mercantile pursuits at Culloden, Georgia, he read law and was admitted to the bar at Talbotton in January,

1846. After a successful practice in the Flint Circuit he moved to Atlanta, in December, 1854, and graced the local bar until his death on November 24, 1877. Colonel Hammond was noted for the care he bestowed upon the preparation of his cases; for his courteous hospitality, his rigid integrity and quiet good humor. During the entire term of his Atlanta practice his partner was his son, the late Nathaniel J. Hammond.[28]

The Messrs. Baugh, Hulsey and Hammond are buried in Oakland cemetery. Judge Peeples was interred in the cemetery at Forsyth, Georgia.[29]

Dr. P. P. Nöel D'Alvigny was born in Paris, France, in 1800, and served for some years as a surgeon in the French army after 1825. He came to Atlanta from Charleston, South Carolina, about 1848, and, until his death in July, 1877, was a valued member of the local medical profession. He is buried at Oakland. A street in the northwest section of Atlanta bears his name.[30]

The founder of the well-known Maier family in Atlanta was also the city's first successful portrait painter. John Maier was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, in 1819, and, while still a lad was imbued with an ambition to become an artist. To this end he apprenticed himself to a school of painting in Berlin and ground paints in order to cover his tuition and living expenses. In 1840 he emigrated to America, landing in New York, where he met his future wife, Miss Maria Ann Berkele. Soon after his marriage he moved to Atlanta in 1850.[31]

Though handicapped by the loss of one eye during childhood, Maier painted both portraits and landscapes. While a better portraitist than landscape artist, he enjoyed the latter, and could be frequently found outdoors at his easel. At such times, many people, including children, would come around to watch and talk. He liked people, however, and was never annoyed by spectators.[32]

Among the known Maier portraits, though the locations of some are uncertain, are those of Helen Ormond Thomas, mother of Mrs. Gordon F. Mitchell; Chief Justice Joseph Henry Lumpkin, Howell Cobb, Robert Toombs, Alexander H., and Linton Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Austell, Father John A. Ryan, Father Thomas O'Reilly, Mrs. O. A. Lochrane, Mrs. T. R. R. Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Martin H. Dooly, Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Harris,[33] and Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Steinheimer. The Steinheimer portraits are owned by the Atlanta Historical Society.

Not long before his death the light in John Maier's one eye failed him and he went blind. He was also a sufferer from asthma. During a severe attack of the latter and in a fit of despondency, the artist shot himself in the mouth at his home 180 Davis Street, where he also conducted a retail grocery. This sad event occurred on March 6, 1877. He lies buried in Oakland Cemetery where his grave is neatly marked.[34]

De Kalb County lost one of its leading citizens and most progressive agriculturists on March 21, 1877, in the death of John C. Ragsdale, of Diamond's District. He was born in 1813 in Jackson County, Georgia, and moved to De Kalb from Newton County in 1847. During 1859 and 1860 he represented De Kalb in the Legislature, and at the time of his death was chairman of the Democratic executive committee of that county. Since 1871 he had been a life member of the State Agricultural Society. Mr. Ragsdale is buried in the old Thomas Maguire family cemetery in Gwinnett County near the De Kalb line.[35]

NOTES—CHAPTER 55

[1] Dec. 7, 1876.

[2] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 7, 1876.

[3] Reed, *Atlanta,* 262.

[4] *City Directory,* 1877.

[5] Herman Hancock, "Atlanta Traffic Problems Since 1877 Reviewed," *Atlanta Constitution,* Oct. 19, 1941.

[6] *Ga. Laws,* 1877, p. 313.

[7] Commission Book, Dept. Archives and History, Atlanta.

[8] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 279; Cooper, *Fulton County,* 286.

[9] Saye, *Constitutional History of Georgia,* 279.

[10] *Ibid.,* 282.

[11] *Ibid.,* 283.

[12] *Ibid.*

[13] Southwest corner Whitehall and railroad.

[14] Built by John T. and William D. Grant, southeast corner Marietta and Forsyth. In later years, known as the Ivan Allen-Marshall Building, the structure yet stands.

[15] Southwest corner, present site of Jefferson Hotel.

[16] Centennial Building.

[17] April 19, 1877.

[18] Reed, *Atlanta,* 488; *City Directory,* 1878.

[19] Feldman, "Checklist, Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 50.

[20] Annie Laurie Fuller Kurtz, "Seven Presidents Have Visited Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Nov. 24, 1935.

[21] "When President Hayes Visited Atlanta," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Apr. 25, 1926.

[22] *Ibid.*

[23] *Ibid.*

[24] *Ibid.*

[25] Kurtz, "Seven Presidents Have Visited Atlanta," *loc. cit.*

[26] *Atlanta Constitution,* Nov. 10, 1877, *Atlanta Journal,* Aug. 25, 1950; city directories, 1880-1885; Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 126; Cooper, *Fulton County,* 779.

[27] *Atlanta Journal,* Aug. 25, 1950.

[28] "Garrett's Necrology."

[29] *Ibid.*

[30] *Ibid.*

[31] *Ibid.;* Walter C. Hill, "A History of Art in Atlanta," 1941, p. 19. An unpublished typescript in possession of the Atlanta Historical Society.

[32] Hill, "Art in Atlanta," *loc. cit.,* 26.

[33] *Ibid.,* 28.

[34] "Garrett's Necrology."

[35] *Ibid.*

CHAPTER 56

1878

THE municipal election of December 5, 1877, resulted in the choice of Russell C. Mitchell as alderman-at-large, and the following new councilmen: First Ward, J. M. Boring; Second Ward, Edward A. Werner; Third Ward, William E. Hayne; Fourth Ward, John H. Flynn, and Fifth Ward, Benjamin B. Crew. Alderman Oliver H. Jones served as mayor pro tem for 1878.[1]

The bonded debt of the city on January 1, 1878, was $1,827,000, the floating debt having been reduced to $331,915.12. The total receipts for 1877 had been $322,727.97. Of this sum $168,780.37 had been paid out as interest on the city's debt, and $110,308.28 had been used to pay current expenses. Atlanta, like most other Southern cities, after the war, had burdened herself with a debt, a considerable part of which was really unnecessary; and but for the wise provisions of the charter of 1874, which stayed the hand of waste and extravagance, it would have been impossible to pay the interest on the floating debt; that debt could not have been decreased, nor would the city's bonds have enhanced in value.[2]

That the seeds of Atlanta's future as a convention center were being sown in 1878, is indicated by S. P. Richards' diary entry for April 20th:

> "We have had a week of busy excitement, in the assembling of the International Sunday School Convention on Wednesday 17th which lasted three days. This Convention is a big thing and made quite a stir. There never before has been so large a body of educated men in our city—brought together from regions so remote from us. Nearly all the States were represented and also Canada."

Two of Atlanta's best-known institutions, Washington Seminary and the Bell House had their inception in 1878.

Aristocratic in its beginning, the school was founded by the Misses Anita and Lola Washington, great-nieces of Lawrence Washington, of Virginia, a half-brother of George Washington—hence the school's name, Washington Seminary.[3]

In 1878 Anita Washington, upon graduation from St. Mary's College, Raleigh, North Carolina, came to Atlanta to visit her aunt, Mrs. W. S. Walker, wife of General Walker. In those days a "visit" meant a prolonged stay, so after several weeks had elapsed, Miss Washington suggested she teach the daughter of the house, then Lillie Walker, later Mrs. Henry Cabaniss Peeples. Later the younger Walker children also became pupils. Then neighbors began sending their girls. Mrs. Rhode Hill sent "Buddie" (Mrs. J. Carroll Payne), and her niece, Mary Smith, then living in the Walker home. Addie Lowry (Mrs. A. F. Hall), Emma Mims (Mrs. Joseph Thompson), and Lizzie James completed the first enrollment. With the nucleus of a school begun, Miss Washington sent for her sister, Lola, to assist her.[4]

The Walker house, original site of Washington Seminary, was located at 232 West Peachtree Street, on the west side, between Simpson and Powers (West Peachtree Place) streets, and first owned by Colonel Alexander M. Wallace.[5]

By 1886, when the school was first listed in the city directory as "Washington Seminary," it was located at 24 East Cain Street, with Mrs. Emily Stewart as principal, the Washington sisters having retired from the local scene. A year later, 1887, Washington Seminary moved to a three-story brick residence on the southwest corner of Walton and Fairlie streets, the former George W. Harrison home, where it remained until the turn of the century.[6]

A half-page advertisement in the city directory of 1889 extolled the merits of the Seminary.

WASHINGTON SEMINARY,

HOME AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

50 Walton Street, Atlanta, Ga.

Fall term begins September 12th: Faculty able and experienced. The Music Department is a part of the music school of Mr. Alfredo Barili. The Art School is under the direction of Mr. H. W. Barnitz. The Primary Department is in charge of a successful teacher, trained in the best methods of primary and kindergarten instruction.

For Catalogue Apply to

MRS. BAYLOR STEWART, Principal

By 1900, when the Seminary had moved to 36 East North Avenue, between the Peachtrees, it was headed by Mrs. W. T. Chandler, as principal and Llewellyn D. Scott, as assistant principal. The latter became principal in 1904. Washington Seminary has been in its present location since 1913, when it acquired the former home of General Clifford L. Anderson, erected a number of years previously.[7]

The first May Day festivities of the Seminary, long a colorful annual event, were held in 1917. Upon that occasion Margaret Whitman (Mrs. Albert Lakin) reigned as queen, with Dorothy Weber (Mrs. Edgar McDougall) as matron of honor. The six maids included Katherine Hook (Mrs. Wesley Espey), Georgia Rice (Mrs. Vernon Wooten), Virginia Collier (Mrs. Louis Estes), Marie Stoddard (Mrs. Jack Lawless), Elizabeth Millard (Mrs. Logan McKee), and Carrie Lou Born (Mrs. Carrie Lou Mallard). The heralds were Nora Sterling and Rudene Becht (Mrs. Warren Leach). Philip Alston and the late George Forrester were trainbearers, and William Matthews carried the crown and scepter.[8]

Professor L. D. Scott died in 1937, and was succeeded as head of the school by his sister, Miss Emma Scott. Today, under Miss Scott, with a faculty of 40 and a student body of 400, Washington Seminary offers courses ranging from kindergarten through high school, with high school students taking college preparatory work, in the majority. Most of the enrollment is from metropolitan Atlanta, but accommodations are provided for 30 boarders, always reserved well in advance.[9]

The traditional atmosphere of Washington Seminary, from the day of the sisters Washington, has been carried on by daughters, granddaughters and great-granddaughters of former students.

The Bell House, equally steeped in tradition, though masculine rather than feminine, closed its doors at Christmas, 1950, after a distinguished career as a home for bachelors and widowers for 72 years.

Mrs. Emma Bell, widowed at 24, with two children, opened a boarding house for bachelors in 1878 at 67 North Pryor Street on the site of the recently demolished Marion Hotel. As the years passed the Bell House, as it came to be known, became a sought-after address. To be a Bell House Boy you had to be a bachelor, though widowers were eligible. A long waiting list developed, and a prospective boarder needed the recommendation of three in good standing before he was considered. Then his nomination and character were passed on by an executive committee.[10]

The rules and regulations of the house included: 1. No drinking in the house. 2. A coat must always be worn downstairs and on the verandah. 3. No smoking in the dining rooms. Mrs. Bell set an excellent table. Food was not spread over a long table, but a boarder would come in, give his order to one of three waiters and sit in the parlor leisurely reading the paper until the waiter notified him his ample meal was ready.[11]

The Bell House occupied its original quarters on Pryor Street until 1893, when Mrs. Bell secured the famous old Leyden House at 198 Peachtree. After a few years there, operations were moved to 258 Peachtree Street, just below the Capital City Club, where Mrs. Bell died in March, 1914. That same year the Bell House was incorporated. Subsequent locations were at West Peachtree and Linden streets; the old John T. Grant home, recently torn down, at Peachtree and Pine; the Cox-Carlton Hotel, and finally, the former Albert E. Thornton house at Peachtree and Third.[12]

Last officers of the Bell House corporation were the late Henry B. Kennedy, president; Charles E. Shepard, secretary-treasurer, and an executive committee composed of Dr. Major F. Fowler, Paul B. Strickland and A. J. Milstead. During its long career the Bell House was home to some 300 or so boarders, most of whom eventually married. In late 1951, as the Bell House was about to pass into history, its officers presented to the Atlanta Historical Society, an old gas lamp post, one of Atlanta's original, and long a Bell House fixture.[13]

For some years after West End was incorporated, in 1868, its citizens, generally, attended church in Atlanta. Then they began building their own. First to be organized was what later became the Park Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South. In 1878 the Rev. F. B. Davies, then city missionary, held services in a one-room house at Gammage's Crossing.[14] This house served as a sanctuary until the first church was built near McCall's Crossing in 1881.[15] Apparently the building was inadequate for it was soon sold, and the congregation worshiped in West End Hall. Then in 1884, the Rev. Howard L. Crumley became pastor, and soon thereafter the first building was built on the present site, a triangular block bounded by Lee, Park and Hammond streets, the property having been donated by the Messrs. Burgess and J. Henly Smith, G. Arthur Howell and George W. Adair. The present structure was erected during the ministry of the late Dr. S. R. Belk in 1912.[16]

On January 31, 1877, the hamlet on the Campbellton Road, formerly known as Mount Gilead Cross Roads, became a U. S. post office and was designated as Ben Hill, in honor of the renowned Georgia statesman. James M. Bryant was appointed first postmaster. Shortly before his death, which occurred April 24, 1878, he was succeeded by the late John M. Baker on March 4th of that year.[17]

De Kalb County acquired two new post offices during 1878, Edgewood, on May 1st, with John M. Stodder as postmaster, and Panola on South River, with Robert M. Clarke as presiding officer, on June 12th.[18]

Edgewood, for which the well-known avenue in Atlanta was later named, was incorporated as a town by Act of the Legislature approved December 9, 1898. It was so called because it bordered on or was on the edge of Atlanta. Under an Act approved August 17, 1908, after vote of its citizens, Edgewood became, on January 1, 1909, part of the city of Atlanta, and lost its individual corporate identity.[19]

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Alabama Street looking west from Pryor toward Whitehall Street, 1878. The building on middle left with classic lines is the Atlanta National Bank

A somewhat primitive form of weather service was in operation in Atlanta as early as 1859, though none of the original papers for this period have been preserved. Neither is there any record of the names of the observers, nor the location and type of instruments employed. Nothing in fact, except some tabulated summaries showing the total amount of rainfall and the average temperature by months and by years.[20]

After the organization of weather work on a nation-wide basis under the Signal Service in 1870, the records are more complete, but insofar as Atlanta is concerned they leave us pretty much in the dark until October 1, 1878. On that date a local weather office was established in the Kimball House, with

Harry Hall in charge. Subsequent changes of location of the office have been as follows: on January 3, 1883, to the Custom House (old city hall) at Forsyth and Marietta streets; on March 15, 1889, to the Gould Building, 11 Edgewood Avenue; on May 31, 1891, back to the Custom House; on July 1, 1899, to the present Grant Building; on August 15, 1901, to the Citizens and Southern Bank (former Empire) Building; and on March 24, 1934, to the New Post Office Building at Spring and Hunter streets.[21]

Local weather bureau offices have always been selected with a view to presenting as little obstruction as possible to wind movement in order that the accuracy of the records of wind velocity and direction might not be impaired by the presence of taller buildings close by.[22]

Upon the transfer of the Weather Bureau from the War Department to the newly created Department of Agriculture, in 1891, Park Morrill was placed in charge of the local office, serving until September, 1894. His first unusual and important task was to organize the climatological service in such a manner as to cover the state of Georgia rather thoroughly. Morrill was succeeded by George E. Hunt, who served until May, 1896. He was succeeded by J. B. Marbury, in charge until May, 1908.[23]

Thereupon began the long tenure of the late Charles F. Von Herrmann, who served longer than any of his predecessors, retiring in 1932. He was one of the ablest Weather Bureau officials of his time, writing many scientific articles and lecturing frequently upon the science of meteorology and the operation of the Weather Bureau. He prepared and published a notable paper on the Climate of Atlanta in which the records for a 40 year period are fully summarized. It was also during Mr. Von Herrmann's service that weather forecasts were first broadcast by radio, in 1927. Atlanta was, in fact, one of the first cities in the country to have the benefit of this service.[24]

Mr. Von Herrmann was succeeded by George W. Mindling. Prior to this, however, with the steadily increasing importance of aviation, a new weather office was opened at the Atlanta Airport, where since December 1, 1934, have originated all telegraphic reports of existing weather conditions sent out from Atlanta.[25]

Eighteen seventy-eight brought a new daily newspaper into the local field—the *Atlanta Daily Post,* an evening paper with Colonel Edward Y. Clarke as proprietor. In 1880 it was sold to David E. Caldwell and the name was changed to the *Post-Appeal,* with Wallace P. Reed as chief editorial writer. Colonel Marcellus E. Thornton purchased the enterprise in 1881. He changed it to a morning paper, which, after a short career, suspended publication.[26]

Building operations in Atlanta continued at a brisk pace throughout 1878, as reported by the *Constitution* on August 10th:

"Atlanta moves on with wonderful speed. Every street now has its new buildings. Most of them are very good indeed—some of them are elegant. We notice a very great improvement in the style of architecture and in the manner of building. There are in Atlanta many residences and storehouses which, for solidity of structure and elegance of finish will come up very favorably with any in the South. Our people are learning to build slowly and well. The hurry of the recuperating days of 1866 is passing away before the solid prosperity and assured importance of Atlanta. Then it was necessary to rush, for we had not enough buildings, and were compelled to remove ashes and rubbish as fast as possible to make room for the thousands of people who came rushing in to the city whose greatness was even in those days foreseen.

"Since that time the sound of the trowel has been an unceasing music in our ears, and we have seen the waste places filled with new and nobler buildings, and then the city stretched into new territory and kept on until now we have a corporation three miles in diameter and a thrifty population not far less than 40,000.

"Those who doubt that Atlanta is growing can be convinced by calling at any real estate office and looking at the list of calls for houses and supply of the same. The demand is constantly in excess of the supply in spite of the continued building which every day completes residences and stores. There are absolutely no houses begging for tenants here, while in every other Georgia city the spectacle of closed doors and deserted premises is so frequent as to be monotonous.

"It is with difficulty that we keep up with our increasing population, but of course we will do so. We are always glad to welcome new comers, and can assure all that they will find comfortable houses and reasonable rents in this growing city. This fact is becoming well known, and in some degree accounts for the rush to Atlanta from almost every city and town in Georgia. Facts now look as if there may be a fulfillment of the prophecy which Mr. Stephens made in his speech here on the 4th of July, 1875, when he said he expected to see Atlanta with a population of 100,000 in less than ten years from that day.[27] We are approaching a size which justifies the prophecy. This fall there will be a big rush to the city, not only from all parts of Georgia, but from other points in the South. Our trade is expanding.

"The reporter, in glancing about the city has jotted down a number of improvements which will be given for the benefit of those who do not know the extent of the building now in progress here:

"Building Notes.

—A prominent real estate agent says there are now in progress here over 130 buildings, most of which are very good.

—The First Presbyterian Church is fast approaching the completion of its exterior. It is gothic style and will be one of the finest churches in the South.[28]

—General Austell has so completely repaired his residence that it is now one of the most stylish in the city.[29]

—The custom house towers are rising fast. They are of solid granite and are very handsome.[30]

—The improvements on the Kimball House are very full and of the very finest workmanship.

—Mr. Dick [Augustus Dixon] Adair is building a handsome residence on the corner of Washington and Peters streets.

—West End has half a dozen new residences.

—Peachtree Street has at least six handsome new residences complete or in process of erection.

—The handsome residence of Colonel R. F. Maddox [northeast], corner Peachtree and Ellis streets, is fast reaching completion.

—Mr. Rhode Hill is building, at the [northeast] corner of Peachtree and Cain streets, one of the most beautiful residences in Georgia.

—The foundation has been laid for the residence of Judge W. B. Woods, on the Kimball lot, on Peachtree Street.

—Mr. T. S. Raines is preparing for the erection of a residence next door to that of Colonel Bulow Campbell, Peachtree Street.[31]

—Mr. W. H. Venable's residence on Forest Avenue is about complete.

—Several neat cottages are rising between Peachtree and Collins streets.

—Mr. W. H. Brotherton is making quite an addition to his store house on Whitehall Street.

—Mitchell Street has increased during the last year to the extent of four new stores.

—Mr. A. M. Lewin is building a brick residence just in the rear of Mr. Peter Lynch's, Loyd Street.

—A neat cottage is going up on the old Dunning lot, Loyd Street.

—Mr. Ed Werner is building a very neat cottage at the junction of Loyd and Fair streets.

—Mr. Pat Kenny has just completed a neat brick residence on Pulliam Street.

—Within the past twelve months Pulliam Street has had five neat new residences.

—Near the rolling mill building is livelier than it has been for several years.[32]

—The new residence of Mr. S. Weilman on Pryor Street ornaments that quarter of the city.

—The northwest corner of Garnett and Whitehall streets is receiving a new brick residence.

—Mr. West Murphy is adding to his residence, corner of Houston and Pryor streets.

—The new residence of Mr. R. O. Douglass on Ivy Street is one of the neatest in the city.

—Two cottages have just been completed on Peachtree Street, near the Sixth Methodist Church.[33]

—Castleberry Hill has caught the building fever.[34]

—Scores of handsome new buildings are planned for next spring."

The local death roll for 1878 included Dr. James A. Taylor, pioneer druggist; James McPherson, Atlanta's first bookseller; the Rev. Francis A. Kimball, pastor of St. Paul's Methodist Church; Colonel James E. Owens, Irish-born host of the Markham House; Nathaniel E. Gardner, early carriage manufacturer, Colonel L. P. Thomas, Sr., former city marshal and father of police chief L. P. Thomas, Jr.; James H. Born, a pioneer citizen of Lithonia; Colonel William W. Boyd, late commander of the 19th Georgia Regiment and prominent Mason; Alfred W. Wooding, a pioneer from whom the city bought the first tract of land now included in Oakland Cemetery; Singleton G. Howell, son of Evan and a younger brother of Judge Clark Howell, of Howell's Mill; Joseph Winship, founder of the Winship Machine Works, and the father of Robert and George; Joel Starnes, age 98, a veteran of the War of 1812 and one of the original settlers of De Kalb, later Fulton County; Dr. Samuel Bard, ex-Atlanta newspaper man, who died in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, of yellow fever; Aaron F. Nunnally, wholesale grocer, thrown from his buggy and fatally injured; Jesse C. Farrar, pioneer land owner and War of 1812 veteran; Dr. Christian Rauschenberg, physician, native of Germany and founder of a well-known Atlanta family; Dr. Solomon S. Beach, ante-bellum physician; Judge James Clarke, planter and the father of Senator John T. Clarke, Judge Marshall J. Clarke, Mrs. E. E. Rawson, Mrs. Sidney Root and Mrs. Moses Cole; Thomas J. Perkerson, pioneer South Fulton County settler, and Julius Baker, an early citizen of the Ben Hill neighborhood.[35]

Henry C. Holcombe, born in 1818, and a resident of Atlanta since 1848, in which year he served as a member of council, met with a fatal accident on March 26, 1878. He was driving a lady relative through Cobb County to see some other relatives. In crossing a bridge over Sweetwater Creek the horse became stubborn and began to back up. The buggy was finally pushed off the bridge and both Mr. Holcombe and his passenger fell 20 feet to the stream. The lady fell in comparatively deep water and was only slightly injured. Mr. Holcombe landed in very shallow water and received injuries from which he died on April 1st.[36]

On January 27, 1878, died one of the most remarkable men who ever lived within the limits of Atlanta. Thomas Alexander was born June 20, 1820, in Manchester, England. When 17 he landed in Brooklyn, so poor that he had to borrow two cents with which to pay his ferryage. He was a stone cutter by trade, and while he went to work immediately, was hardly able to make a living in Brooklyn. In 1847 he married and moved to Savannah, Georgia, where he plied his trade to better financial advantage, and where he first exhibited his rare powers for governing men.

After five years in Savannah he moved to Stone Mountain, where his first job was the erection of a mill for Charles Latimer. The year 1853 marked his arrival in Atlanta, where he took a job at one dollar a day on the construction of the Georgia Railroad roundhouse. He was able to save some money and made some modest real estate purchases in the city, before leaving in 1855 for Hancock County, Georgia. There he engaged in farming, settling on land adjoining that of the noted David Dickson. Alexander's real prosperity began at this time, and he farmed successfully until the close of the war, when he returned to Atlanta with $15,000 of the $100,000 he was worth before the war.

He soon embarked in the contracting business with Benjamin H. Broomhead, a native of Burlington, New Jersey. Not long afterward the firm secured the contract for repairing the State Capitol at Milledgeville, a very lucrative job.

After the State convicts were leased to private companies in 1866, Alexander formed a partnership with John T. and William D. Grant, as Grant, Alexander & Company. This firm became remarkably successful, principally in the field of railroad building, and Alexander soon amassed a fortune of some $300,000. Much of his fortune was invested in good city real estate plus some 600 acres in West End. Thomas Alexander, like his slightly older contemporary, Wash Collier, bought but never sold, and at his death left an estate worth over half a million, the largest in Fulton County up to that time.

Mr. Alexander was a man of little education, but of remarkable common sense. His mind was vigorous, his perceptions quick, his judgment intuitive and unerring. Robert Toombs said of him frequently that he had the strongest mind in the State, and that he would sooner trust his intuitive judgment than that of any man living.

While exact and inexorable in his business dealings, he was scrupulously honest and often benevolent. Dr. Amos Fox, perhaps his closest friend said that he had often seen Alexander exact full rent from a poor tenant, and then give the tenant back his money.

Though never known to have written more than six letters in his life, and lacking in formal schooling, Alexander was withal a well-read man. He found his greatest joy in the works of Charles Dickens, the scenes of which he remembered as a boy. Macauley's History of England was a work with which he was intimately familiar, while the life of Oliver Cromwell, his favorite historical character, he knew in minute detail.[37]

Thomas Alexander lies buried under a massive obelisk in historic Oakland Cemetery.[38]

NOTES—CHAPTER 56

[1] Reed, *Atlanta,* 262.

[2] *Ibid.,* 262-263.

[3] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 5, 1944.

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] *Ibid.; Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate G.

[6] City directories, 1886-1900.

[7] *Ibid.,* 1900-1914.

[8] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 5, 1944.

[9] "Garrett's Necrology;" Miller, ed., *Atlanta,* 215-216.

[10] *City Directory,* 1878; *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 24, 1950; *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 22, 1951. *Hopkins' Atlas,* Plate D.

[11] *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 22, 1951.

[12] City directories, 1878-1914; *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 24, 1950.

[13] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 24, 1950; *Atlanta Journal,* Nov. 22, 1951.

[14] Approximate present site of the Farmer's Market at the Sylvan Road crossing of the C. of Ga. R. R.

[15] Where Lee Street, Whitehall, Murphy Avenue and Allene Avenue come together at the Willingham-Tift Lumber Company.

[16] Cooper, *Fulton County,* 553-554.

[17] Record Postmasters, Fulton; "Garrett's Necrology."

[18] Record, Postmasters, De Kalb.

[19] Candler, *De Kalb County,* 20.

[20] George W. Mindling, "Development of the Weather Service in Atlanta," *A.H.B.,* XXIII (Oct., 1940), 259.

[21] *Ibid.,* 261-262.

[22] *Ibid.,* 262.

[23] *Ibid.,* 263.

[24] *Ibid.,* 263-264.

[25] *Ibid.,* 269-272.

[26] Feldman, "Checklist Atlanta Newspapers," *loc. cit.,* 52.

[27] The city did not attain a population of 100,000 until shortly after the turn of the century.

[28] See Chapter 57, 1879.

[29] No. 80 Marietta Street, next door to First Presbyterian Church.

[30] Marietta and Forsyth Streets—later the city hall.

[31] Northwest corner Peachtree and Pine Streets.

[32] Neighborhood of Marietta Street and North Avenue.

[33] The Sixth Methodist Church was located on the north side of Merritts Avenue between Peachtree and Courtland, then Collins Street.

[34] High ground around intersection of Peters and Fair Streets.

[35] "Garrett's Necrology."

[36] *Ibid.*

[37] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 29, 1878.

[38] "Garrett's Necrology."

CHAPTER 57

1879

THE election of December 4, 1878, for municipal officers to serve during 1879 and 1880 was somewhat more exciting than its immediate predecessors. Voters had a choice of three candidates from which to choose a mayor, William Lowndes Calhoun, James Warren English and Daniel Pike Hill.

The *Constitution* came out for English in a front page recommendation on December 4, 1878.

"VOTERS, DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

Jim English is the Solid Man for Mayor.

Jim English started poor in the world!

Jim English early learned to labor and to hope!

Jim English won the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men!

Jim English was a gallant soldier in the late war for southern rights and liberty!

Jim English came to Atlanta on foot with less than a dollar in his pocket after the war and has made himself all that he is by honest and laborious methods!

Jim English stands today, in the eyes of the people of Georgia, as a bright exemplar of the progress and enterprise of the great city of Atlanta, the capital of the state!

Jim English was the recognized leader of the hard-fought and brilliantly earned capitol campaign, and should the building of the capitol be required at once by the legislature, he is the right man to see the contract executed!

Jim English is the friend of the workingman and no vote of his in the council can be shown to the contrary. Any attempt to array the workingman against him is useless, for he is their friend and will remain so as long as he remembers how he used himself to work at the bench!

VOTE FOR ENGLISH

and vindicate the good name of your neighbor, show your appreciation of his great services to Atlanta and let us give him a rousing majority today."

The inning of Captain English as mayor was to come later. When the returns were in, William L. Calhoun emerged the winner, with 2,509 votes to 1,898 for English and 162 for Hill.[1]

The new mayor had been a resident of the Atlanta area all of his life, having been born at Decatur in 1837, a son of James M. Calhoun, wartime mayor of the city. W. L. Calhoun was admitted to the bar in 1857, and became the partner of his father. During the war he served gallantly in the Confederate army at Knoxville, Vicksburg, Baker's Creek, and in Johnston's retreat from Dalton to Resaca, at which latter point he was wounded. He emerged from the struggle with the rank of captain and immediately resumed the practice of law with his father. From 1873 to 1876 he served as a representative in the state legislature.[2]

Among the landmarks of his term as mayor were the funding of the city's floating debt of $600,000, from a high to a six per cent rate of interest, and the procuring of legislation necessary for the inauguration of a street paving system for Atlanta.[3]

New members of council elected with Mayor Calhoun were: Alderman-at-large, John B. Goodwin; councilmen, first ward, Ed A. Baldwin; second ward, W. D. Ellis; third ward, James K. Thrower; fourth ward, William H. Patterson, and fifth ward, Andrew P. Stewart.[4]

At an election held on July 7, 1879, for ministerial officers, the following were elected: Clerk, Willis R. Biggers; marshal, W. H. Holcombe; city attorney, W. T. Newman; city engineer, Robert M. Clayton; treasurer, John H. Goldsmith; sexton, L. G. Holland; tax receiver and collector, John Milledge; hall-keeper, William A. Bonnell.[5]

A few changes were made in county officials for both Fulton and De Kalb, in January, 1879. In Fulton, John S. Holliday succeeded James D. Collins as clerk of the superior court; Dr. William G. Drake succeeded veteran coroner William Kile, and William A. Wilson succeeded Angus M. Perkerson as sheriff. Only two changes were made in De Kalb. J. L. Teat succeeded W. J. Williams as tax receiver, and E. M. Kittredge succeeded Frank L. Guess as surveyor.[6]

Under date of Friday, January 31, 1879, S. P. Richards wrote in his diary:

> "Gen. Sherman has just honored our city by a visit to see how nicely we have builded it up after his burning it."

The General reached the city from Rome, Georgia, by train during the early afternoon of Wednesday, January 29th.

A large group of people, mostly white, gathered upon the sidewalks adjacent to the depot for the purpose of catching a glimpse of the general of the army. A sort of light, good humor pervaded the crowd, spiced with curiosity to see the man who had burned Atlanta. There was no perceptible indignation or feeling of prejudice. In most of the clumps of talkers there were jokes flying to and fro. One man proposed to Mayor Calhoun that he go and offer the freedom of the city to General Sherman. "He made too damn free with it," said an objector, "when he was here before." Another gentleman good-humoredly proposed that a procession of widows in mourning, with bunches of pine-kindling in their hands, be appointed to wait on the general and offer to facilitate his work. As the train rolled in, a gentleman called: "Ring the fire-bells! The town will be gone in forty minutes!"[7]

The general's party, consisting of himself, two daughters, Misses Lizzie and Ellie Sherman, General Van Vliet, and several aides, proceeded from the train to the Kimball House, where all were registered. After dinner, the visitors were taken in carriages for a ride through the city, accompanied by W. C. Morrill, treasurer of the W. & A. Railroad; Colonel Buck, and some of the officers from McPherson Barracks. The general seemed pleased with the tour and expressed great adminiration at the pluck and energy shown by Atlanta and her marvelous recuperation since the war. That evening a ball was held in the general's honor at McPherson Barracks, followed by a fine supper served by Robert Pause a local caterer.[8]

The following morning, Thursday, a grand review was held at the Barracks, after which the entire installation was carefully inspected by General Sherman, who seemed much gratified with conditions at the post.

After leaving the Barracks the general and his party returned to the city and dined with Judge William B. Woods, of the United States circuit court, at his new residence, Peachtree and Kimball (Ponce de Leon Ave.) streets. From the veranda of the Woods' home General Sherman could see in the distance some of the hills about Peachtree Creek, where fifteen years previously he had done some of his hardest fighting. He seemd to watch these points with interest and talked freely of the recollections they brought so vividly to his mind.[9]

That evening, from five to seven o'clock an informal reception was held at the Kimball House. A goodly number of citizens called, including Governor Brown, Mayor Calhoun, ex-Mayor Angier and William M. Lowry. All were received cordially by the general and his daughters.[10]

The following morning General Sherman and his staff called upon Governor Colquitt at the capitol. After a visit and inspection of the building, the party went across the street and took a thorough view of the new custom house. At 2 P.M., they left for Savannah via the Central Railroad,[11] and thus ended General W. T. Sherman's third, but not last visit, to Atlanta and its environs.

Though not inspired by the visit of General Sherman, Atlanta's Gate City Guard made its famous northern tour in October, 1879. Captain Joseph F. Burke, commandant of the organization had fought bravely for the Confederacy, but was one of the first southerners to turn his thoughts to the subject of nation-wide brotherhood. "A union pinned together with bayonets would be worse than no union at all," was Captain Burke's idea, and the thought began formulating in his mind that if a body of southerners, with the United States flag at their head, should make a friendly trip into the North, it would do much to testify to the fact that Georgians were reconstructed and willing to let bitter memories die.[12]

After the Gate City Guard had fallen in with the plan enthusiastically, there was some fear expressed that the Georgia company would be received with coldness. However, the Guard took its way northward over the Atlanta & Charlotte Air-Line Railroad in a special car provided by W. J. Houston, general passenger agent and Major G. J. Foreacre, general manager of the road. Dressed in blue uniforms and carrying a beautiful United States flag, presented by the ladies of Rome, Georgia, the path of the Guard lay through Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Hartford.[13]

At every point they were greeted with cheers of welcome. The press of the whole country followed their progress as it marked a new cementing of the union and a burying of the bloody shirt. Among the many historic military companies by whom the Guard was entertained during the tour were the Seventh New York, the Putnam Phalanx and the Hartford Foot Guard. Finally, in triumph, the Gate City Guard returned to Atlanta amid the plaudits of the nation.[14]

Officers and privates of the Guard, who made the northern tour in uniform were Captain Burke, Lieut. W. C. Sparks, Lieut. H. W. Johnstone, E. W. Reinhardt, Charles E. Sciple, W. P. Horton, C. W.Connally, J. H. Hollingsworth, W. M. Camp, H. A. Daniels, J. S Wallace, W. B. O'Quinn, W. H. Hart, Charles P. Byrd, W. T. Kuhns, Peter F. Clark, W. B. Buchanan, E. H. Sneed, J. H. McGehee, C. Howard Harris, J. P. Culberson, A. L. Sneed, E. W. Hewitt, T. Flemming, W. R. Boring, Edward White, Jr, R. J. Gilbert, E. S. Hart, W. B. Cummings, T. J. Cooper, S. A. Swerenger, J. L. Jackson, G. W. Sciple, Jr., E. S. Strobhar, S. Marion, Henry L. Collier, F. Hart, M. Bently, drummer.[15]

Atlanta's status as an educational center for the Negro was enhanced in 1879, when the present Morehouse College was moved here from Augusta.

Founded there in 1867 as the Augusta Institute, the school's handful of original students, most of whom were born in slavery, were housed in one classroom, under the jurisdiction of the American Baptist Home Mission Board.[16]

By October, 1879, when the school opened in Atlanta, its name had been changed to Atlanta Baptist Seminary. The first local session was held in the Friendship Baptist Church at West Mitchell and Haynes streets. By January, 1880, however, the seminary moved into its own new brick building, corner West Hunter and Elliott streets, at which time the local board of trustees was composed of J. H. Low, chairman, Sidney Root, secretary; Rev. J. H. De Votie, Rev. W. J. White and Rev. F. Quarles. President of the school was the Rev. Joseph T. Roberts, D.D.[17]

(Courtesy Atlanta Historical Society)

Junction Marietta and Walton streets, circa late in 1870's. This section was known as "Brooklyn." Note ample drinking facilities for horses and mules

In 1888, Sidney Root, resident trustee, closed a contract for a 14 acre tract of land at West Fair and Chestnut streets, to which site the Atlanta Baptist Seminary moved in 1889. Becoming the Atlanta Baptist College in 1897, the school was named Morehouse College in 1913 for Dr. Henry Lyman Morehouse, corresponding secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Board. In June, 1906, the late Dr. John Hope became the first Negro president of the college. During his tenure, lasting until his resignation in 1931, Morehouse made great forward strides.[18]

Eighteen seventy-nine also saw Atlanta rise in stature as a center of medical education, when Dr. Thomas S. Powell founded the Southern Medical College. The charter was granted early in the year, after which, on February

21st, an organization was effected with Dr. Powell as president, J. J. Toon, vice-president, and Dr. R. C. Word, secretary. A building committee composed of Dr. Powell, S. B. Hoyt, G. T. Dodd, W. W. McAfee and W. T. Goldsmith selected a lot on Porter's Alley, now Equitable Place.[19] By November 1st the building was completed and the school opened with 64 matriculates, and a competent faculty composed of Doctors A. S. Payne, William Rawlings, T. S. Powell, R. C. Word, G. M. McDowell, William Perrin Nicolson, W. T. Goldsmith, H. F. Scott, G. G. Crawford, Lindsay Johnson, J. F. Alexander, W. G. Owen, G. G. Roy, H. B. Lee, J. C. Olmsted, and A. J. Pinson.[20]

In October, 1882, with a view to carrying out his resolve of giving medical students better training, Dr. Powell established, in connection with the Southern Medical College, a hospital. Known as the Ivy Street Hospital,[21] it became the first in Atlanta for the reception of emergency cases, and, for some time, city patients were cared for. Always present at the hospital were two graduates of the Southern Medical College and two seniors. While they acted as internes, the faculty of the college was the hospital staff. The Ivy Street Hospital served the city until 1892 when Grady Hospital was established.[22]

In the spring of 1887, Dr. Powell procured an amendment to the charter of the college authorizing the establishment of a dental department, which took form in 1892 as the Southern Dental College, later known as the Atlanta-Southern Dental College.[23]

From the time the Southern Medical College opened its doors, a great rivalry existed between it and the older Atlanta Medical College. Indeed, this rivalry, instead of fostering the progress of local medical science, tended to retard it. After the death of Dr. Powell, in 1895, a movement for a consoldiation began. The movement culminated in the summer of 1898 in the formation of the Atlanta College of Physicians and Surgeons. The ablest men of the two old faculties were chosen for the staff of the new college; equipment was thoroughly modernized and the amount thereof doubled, and the combined institution entered upon a period of great usefulness and prosperity. It is now incorporated in the Medical Department of Emory University.[24]

Since its dedication on July 4, 1852, the original small brick building on Marietta Street had served the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church. Except for some improvements made in 1873, it had stood as originally built. By 1876, however, as church membership grew by leaps and bounds, the old edifice had become inadequate, and a new building, on the same site, was decided upon. On July 17, 1877, a contract was awarded to the firm of Cook and Stewart (Geo. W. D. Cook and Frederick S. Stewart) in the amount of $36,442.97. At this time the finance committee was composed of Alfred Austell, Walker P. Inman, James W. English, Benjamin F. Longley and Leonard Bellingrath. The building committee consisted of Thomas G. Healey, William A. Moore, John C. Peck, Samuel M. Inman and Thomas L. Langston. William M. Lowry, chairman of the board of trustees, served as chairman of the Joint Committee. During building operations the congregation worshiped in the building of the Northern Methodist Church across the street and just below Spring. The handsome new Gothic brick structure was completed in October, 1879, during the pastorate of the Rev. Joseph H. Martin. With improvements made in 1904, it served usefully and remained as a Marietta Street landmark until December, 1915, when the congregation moved into the Sunday School building at the present location, Peachtree and Sixteenth streets. The old building was torn down in 1916 to make way for the Federal Reserve Bank.[25]

In May, 1879, the Atlanta Savings Bank, founded in 1875, was succeeded by the Gate City National Bank, with a capital of $100,000, increased in July, 1881, to $250,000. Business was continued in the old Kimball House, until that hostelry was destroyed by fire in August, 1883. Temporary quarters were then secured pending the erection of the Gate City Bank Building at the southwest corner of Alabama and Pryor streets. When completed in January, 1884, at a cost of $145,000, the structure was the finest bank building in the city. Original officers of the Gate City Bank were Lodowick M. Hill, of Washington, Georgia, president; Lodowick J. Hill, vice-president, and Edward S. McCandless, cashier. Original directors were L. M. and L. J. Hill, Anthony Murphy, R. H. Richards, Charles Beermann and Henry Jackson. The bank went out of business in 1893.[26]

During the summer of 1879 the W. & A. Railroad added some spectacular rolling stock to its roster, as evidenced by the following comment from the *Constitution* on July 19th.

> "We saw yesterday a beautiful new mail car which has just been finished in the Western and Atlantic railroad shops. It is one of the new white cars, which will appear very handsome in the lead of a train next to an engine. The arrangement on the inside of the car is a model of neatness and convenience, having several improvements which will be useful. The exterior of the car is white trimmed with buff. The car will be out next week. Another like it will then be finished, and the two run on the day passenger trains. White mail cars are a novelty that will attract attention. Mr. [William G.] Gramling, the foreman of the shop, has displayed his usual taste in finishing the car and perfecting its conveniences."

Just how long the new cars remained white after going into service is not of record.

Since its organization at the beginning of the decade, the Atlanta Street Railroad Company was managed and controlled by the original officers and directors. In 1878, George W. Adair's interest in the company was purchased by Richard Peters, who thereby increased his holdings to about four-fifths of the entire capital stock of $300,000 outstanding. From 1878 to 1888 the officers of the company were Richard Peters, president; J. W. Culpepper, secretary and treasurer, and E. C. Peters, superintendent.[27]

By 1879 it was reported generally that the Atlanta Street Railroad Company was taking in money hand over fist, and the apparent prosperity of the company inspired competition to enter the field. The Gate City Street Railroad Company was formed in 1879 by Messrs. Laurent DeGive, Levi B. Nelson, Augustus M. Reinhardt and John Stephens. Five years later this company built a line starting in front of the Kimball House on Pryor Street. It passed out Pryor to Wheat (Auburn Ave.) Street, to Jackson Street to Angier Avenue, and thence over a private right-of-way to Angier Springs.[28] This line was operated by the original builders until January, 1887, when it was acquired by J. W. Culpepper and E. C. Peters. It was then extended out Boulevard to Ponce de Leon Avenue, with a branch line to Piedmont Park, and leased to the Atlanta Street Railroad Company. Like its predecessors it was a horse car line.[29]

One of Atlanta's best-known present-day streets, Boulevard, Northeast, was opened in the spring of 1879, at which time it elicited the following comment from the *Constitution*:

"THE BOULEVARD.

An Opening on the First of April.

The boulevard is nearly finished. It will be Atlanta's best drive. It runs from Decatur Street, near the cemetery, to near Ponce de Leon in a direct line. It is a wide level drive cut through several hills and arranged so as to present a tempting view for the happy possessers of fast horses and stylish vehicles. The work has been done principally by the county chain gang, which Judge Pittman has liberally given to this service. The superintendence of the work has been in the hands of Mr. Henry T. McDaniel, the city engineer, who has shown skill and economy in the direction of the plans. The boulevard is now nearly done and already is a popular drive. Every afternoon there are vehicles flying over its smooth course. . . . By general consent, this drive will be called Pittman Avenue, in honor of Judge Daniel Pittman who has taken such an interest in its construction."[30]

The gesture to Judge Pittman was short-lived. Almost from the start the new street was commonly referred to as "The Boulevard," and the name stuck.

Two of the most notorious murders in the history of the Atlanta area were committed in 1879, one of which has never been solved. The first, about which there was never any mystery, resulted in the sudden demise of one of Atlanta's and De Kalb county's best known citizens and lawyers, Colonel Robert A. Alston, on March 11th.

Colonel Alston was descended from the famous "Halifax," Alstons, of Halifax, North Carolina, and was born in Macon, Georgia, December 31, 1832. After his education was completed he engaged in mercantile pursuits in Charleston, South Carolina. Later he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1858. He practiced until the war began, during which he fought with Morgan's raiders. While engaged in a hundred fights, he was never wounded. After the war he settled in De Kalb County, and engaged in farming, journalism and the practice of law, his last partner in the latter endeavor being the noted Pat Calhoun.[31]

The cause of the tragedy was rooted in the convict lease system. Among the lessees was Senator John B. Gordon. As a sublessee under Gordon was Edward Cox, who had about 60 of the convicts at work upon a farm in Taylor County, Georgia. For some time Gordon had been anxious to sell his interest in the lease, and sever his connection with the employment of convict labor. To this end he gave Colonel Alston, a warm personal friend, power of attorney to sell his interest in Penitentiary Company No. 2.[32]

The first potential purchaser was Jesse Walters, of Albany, Georgia, who, Cox felt, would give him a good deal on his sublease. When Walters refused to pay the asking price of $4,000, Alston approached Colonel C. B. Howard, who agreed to buy, but told Cox that the matter of his sublease would have to wait, since he could only make one trade at a time.[33]

Thereupon Cox became incensed with Alston as the agent of Gordon. On March 11, 1879, Cox encountered Alston about noon in Dougherty Hutchins' barber shop on Marietta Street, and demanded that the trade with Howard be rescinded. Alston replied that this would not be possible. A warm argument then ensued, during which Cox is alleged to have threatened Alston with a knife. Alston told Cox he was unarmed and desired no difficulty, whereupon Cox told Alston to go and arm himself. After the latter left, Cox indulged in abusive language about Alston and threatened to kill him before sundown if he did not do right in the matter. After several fruitless efforts to borrow a pistol, Cox went to the gun store of Heinz & Berkele and purchased a nickel-plated revolver of the "Swamp Angel" variety, which was carefully loaded by the vendor.[34]

Finally, about 3:30 P.M. the two men, both armed, met in the office of State Treasurer John W. Renfroe in the State House at Forsyth and Marietta streets. Another heated argument ensued. Both Renfroe and Captain John W. Nelms, principal keeper of the penitentiary, who was also in the office, attempted to prevent bloodshed, but to no avail. Cox and Alston drew their pistols simultaneously and began to fire with great rapidity. Alston's first shot struck Cox on the left side of the upper lip. Cox's first shot missed. Alston then fired twice, one ball striking Cox in the left hand. The other shot went wild. Cox then fired a second shot, which found its mark in Alston's right temple. From this wound Alston died at 6:40 P.M. at the residence of Dr. F. F. Taber, 82 Decatur Street. He was survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters, and was buried in the Decatur cemetery on March 13th.[35]

On May 7, 1879, Cox, whose wounds were not serious, was tried for murder in Fulton Superior Court, and found guilty, with a recommendation for mercy. He was sentenced by Judge George Hillyer to hard labor in the penitentiary for the remainder of his life. The case was carried to the State Supreme Court, where the judgment of the lower court was affirmed.[36]

After serving for some time, Cox was pardoned, and thereafter operated a dairy farm at his country home, "Belle Meade" on the Marietta Road. There he died on March 1, 1901, in his 57th year and was laid to rest in the Decatur cemetery a few feet from the grave of the man he had killed in the heat of passion twenty-two years before. Like his victim, Captain Cox had also served the Confederacy—as a member of Wheeler's Cavalry.[37]

On Saturday morning, July 26, 1879, on the road to Bolton (then called Iceville), six miles from the city, stood a weather-stained old homestead with blinds of faded green. And back of its tottering portico, under its mouldering roof, lay the victims of as gruesome a murder as has ever been committed in Fulton County. Martin DeFoor and his wife Susan were murdered that rainy Friday night, as they lay in bed, and though 73 years have passed, the identity of the slayer has never been discovered, nor a satisfactory motive estalished.[38]

The bodies, nearly decapitated by axe blows, were found at 6 A.M., July 26th, by Martin Walker, a grandson, who, noticing that his grandparents were not up at their usual hour, went in to investigate. The old couple had not a known enemy in the world, and that robbery was not the motive, was evidenced by the fact that, while a bureau drawer had been broken into, a bag containing $18 in silver was left in plain sight, undisturbed. Several other articles of value were unmolested. All that was taken were Mr. DeFoor's wallet, containing nothing but some promissory notes, and his boots, which were later found in the woods some 400 feet from the house.[39]

In the DeFoor home was an upstairs room, reached by a ladder, and rarely used by members of the family. Upon investigation, unmistakable signs of recent occupancy were found in this room. The bed was rumpled, as if by a human form, and the counterpane bore the muddy impress of a bare foot. In a lumber room adjoining was found recent human excrement containing watermelon seed, and evidence of urination in a basket of cotton. It was therefore concluded that the murderer had slipped into the house during the preceding day, and concealed himself upstairs until that night, when he descended to commit his horrible deed, and then departed by the back door, which was found unlatched from the inside. The axe was found in the fireplace, covered with ashes and blood. Near the spot where the murdered man's boots were discovered, were the remains of a watermelon feast.[40]

Despite the best efforts of Sheriff William A. Wilson, his deputies, and his successor, Angus M. Perkerson, the crime was never solved. Many suspects, mostly Negroes, were arrested, but each clue ended in a blind alley.[41]

Martin DeFoor came to De Kalb County from Franklin County during the middle 1840's and settled in the Panthersville District. In 1853 he moved to the old Montgomery settlement at Bolton, where he took over the operation of Montgomery's Ferry, soon to become known as DeFoor's Ferry. From that time until his death, DeFoor and his family lived in the former Montgomery home, one of the oldest in the county, and located on the west side of what is now Chattahoochee Avenue, just north of Moore's Mill Road. The house was torn down in August, 1879, by Thomas Moore, a son-in-law of DeFoor, who used the lumber in erecting a barn on his own place just across the road.[42]

The murdered couple were buried in a single grave in the Montgomery family cemetery, a stone's throw from their home. The obelisk over the grave is inscribed:

West

SACRED

To the Memory of
MARTIN DEFOOR
Born Sept. 17th, 1805
Died July 25th, 1879
Aged 73 Years, 10 Mons.
And 8 Days

East

SACRED

To the Memory of
SUSAN DEFOOR
Born Dec. 2nd, 1798
Died July 25th, 1879
Aged 81 Years, 5 Mons.
And 23 Days

South

Father, Mother here
are sleeping
'Neath fair Georgia's
lovely sky
While their own loved
Chattahoochee
Near their grave is
gliding by

In a boat veiled in
deep silence
They have crossed
death's darksome tide
And now freed from
every sorrow
Saints forever they abide

North

Lovely and pleasant
in their lives and in
their death they
were not divided

DEFOOR

Some other well-known citizens of the Atlanta area who died during 1879, were John Peel, baker and restaurateur; Oliver H. Jones, leading livery stable operator, alderman and former city marshal; Henry Irby, pioneer citizen of Buckhead; Daniel A. McDuffie, plastering contractor and former member of city council; Judge John L. Harris, judge of the superior court of the Brunswick Circuit, ante-bellum Atlanta lawyer and early city clerk; Orson Rockwell, native of Vermont, Baptist minister and first principal of Walker Street School; Ezekiel Mason, one of Decatur's oldest residents; William A. Rawson, merchant, property owner and older brother of Edward E. Rawson; Michael Bloomfield, pioneer native-born Irishman; J. Reid Boylston, merchant and native of Charleston, South Carolina; David Demarest, New Jersey-born contractor and builder; Gresham C. Rogers, saddler and livery stable proprietor; Colonel James A. Stewart, flour miller; John Wesley Yarbrough, pastor of Wesley Chapel during 1848 and 1849, and William Johnson, proprietor of Johnson's Ferry across the Chattahoochee.[43]

The death of ferryman Johnson, an old citizen of Cobb County, in mid December, had peculiar repercussions. The body was duly buried at Providence Church, not far from the Johnson home in Cobb County and a short distance off the Middle Roswell Road. On Saturday morning, December 13th, some friends of the deceased passed by the cemetery and noticed that the mound over the grave appeared rough and irregular. Later in the day they became so suspicious that they resolved to disinter the remains. Pieces of clothing were found in the loose dirt in the grave. When the coffin was reached it was opened and found empty. The corpse had been snatched, stripped and carried off. The news spread over the county and created excitement generally, and indignation among the late Mr. Johnson's relatives and friends.[44]

An investigation disclosed that late Friday afternoon, December 12th, a white man and a Negro crossed the river from the Fulton County side over Johnson's Ferry in a light spring wagon. During the crossing they plied Mr. Pursley, the ferryman, with questions as to the location and surroundings of Providence Church. Well after dark the pair recrossed the river, this time lower down, at Heard's Ferry. The ferryman at Heard's detected a bad odor emanating from something covered up in the rear of the wagon, and asked what it was. He was told that a drunken man was picked up on the road and carried home, but while in the wagon had "lost his lunch," which accounted for the odor.[45]

It was well known, particularly to law enforcement officers, that at this period medical colleges generally, were finding it difficult to secure subjects for dissection. Recently the city cemeteries had been so closely watched that the supply of "stiffs" had been drawn principally from country graveyards. Indeed they were in such demand that a good subject for the dissecting knife would bring as much as $100. Under the circumstances it was only natural that the police investigated every medical college in Atlanta. They were accompanied by ferryman Pursley, who claimed he could identify the Negro he had seen in the spring wagon. As Pursley approached the Atlanta Medical College with the officers, he saw George Vaughn, the colored janitor, standing near the gate. Without hesitation Vaughn was identified by Pursley as the Negro who was in the wagon.[46]

Vaughn was indicted and taken to Marietta, where he was placed on trial before Judge George N. Lester. He was found guilty of a misdemeanor and fined $600, immediately after which a motion for a new trial was made. Vaughn had vigorously denied any connection with the grave robbery.[47]

At any rate the body of William Johnson was never found, and his grave in Providence Churchyard remains empty to this day. Johnson's Ferry Road, in both Fulton and Cobb counties remains as his only memorial.

During the fall of 1879 a special correspondent of *Harper's Magazine* visited Atlanta. His observations formed the basis for an illustrated article about the city published in the December, 1879 issue of that publication, then known as *Harper's New Monthly Magazine.* Some extracts follow:

"Atlanta is less peculiar and picturesque in its characteristics than any other town in the South. She looks to me more like a western town, since her newness and enterprise hardly affiliate her with Augusta, Savannah, Mobile, and the rest of the sleepy cotton markets, whose growth, if they have had any, is imperceptible, and whose pulse beats are only a faint flutter.

"Deriving her success from a multitude of business advantages, and from her favorable situation in point of geography and climate, Atlanta has waxed great and powerful, and withal attractive. All the evidences of busy life are around you, and only unless you are fresh from New York or Baltimore or Chicago, do you notice the provincial air. . . .

"On Mondays you may see tall, straight Negro girls, marching through the streets, carrying enormous bundles of soiled clothes upon their heads; or a man with a great stack of home-made, unpainted split bottomed chairs, out from among the white legs and rungs of which his black visage peers curiously; or urchins under baskets of flowers poised like crowns. . . . Troops of little black boys, bare-footed, bare-headed and ragged, go about carrying bags in which they gather up rags in a manner wholly different from the New York chiffonniers.

"At certain corners stand farmers in scant clothing of homespun, and the most bucolic of manners, waiting for someone to buy, for a dollar, the little load of wood piled up in the center of a home-made wagon so diminutive that two men could walk away with the whole affair, while a third carried the mule under his arm.

"It is great fun to go to the post office[48] after the arrival of the noon mail from the North. The office closes its windows, although it is in the middle of the day, and devotes itself to the task of distribution. Meanwhile the crowd accumulates—mostly the rabble who get a letter about once in four weeks, but mixed up of all sorts—and amuse themselves by making remarks not always complimentary to the rule of the office, or stand patiently in line until the window opens.

"On certain days you will hear the beating of triangles, and have your attention directed to the red flag of the curb-stone auctioner, whose volubility will be heard above the din of traffic. These out-of-door auctions always are amusing, and the crowd of negroes, 'poor whites,' and loungers that they gather afford an interesting study to the lover of physiognomy.

"It is like a bit of the Bowery or Chatham Street turned out of doors; but the articles sold are more miscellaneous and wretched.

"You may buy worn-out stoves and tables, second-hand bacon, muddy croquet sets, rubber hose of one kind and cotton hose of another, canary birds, hat racks, baby carriages, old fruit jars, clothing, bath tubs, straw sunbonnets, squirrel cages, carpets, books, bed clothes made 'befoh de wah,' sweet oil, saws, crockery, iron garden sets, ice cream freezers, saddles, window sashes—everything out of time and miserable, from a pair of snuffers to a horse and wagon, alive and harnessed.

"Another event of the traveler's life in Atlanta is the contact with the brush fiend. This imp, or rather this species of imp, for there are many such, finds its home at the hotel, and there lies in wait for the unwary tourist, as the spider crouches in quiet anticipation of its masculine meal.

"You enter the door and walk half way across the marble floor, when you feel a gentle stroke upon your shoulders, and turn your head to see an uplifted whisk broom in the hands of a darky, who grins in a conciliatory manner. But you harden your heart, proceed to register, and lend your autograph in support of the eminent respectability of the house.

"The flourish is not yet from under your pen, when your modest hand bag is seized, and down comes a broom upon your coat tail. A look fails to arrest the brush and you flee.

"At the foot of the stairway is a shadowy corner. You are unsuspicious, not having yet learned to give it a wide berth. Just as your foot is upon the first stair, out leaps a whisk broom and begins upon you.

"Escaped this, you meet a fiend at the first landing. You watch him grimly grasping a brush. Fixing your eagle eye upon him, you say, 'lift that whisk broom one inch, and I'll pitch you down these stairs.'

"Finally you reach your room, the porter opens the doors, sets down your baggage, opens the windows, raises the curtains, is about to retire; hesitates and softly asks: 'Would you—would you like to have your coat—,' while out of his hip pocket comes a whisk broom.

"After dinner I take a cigar and saunter out. . . . Ten o'clock arrives, and with many another lounger I stroll down to the station to see the trains from the north and east come in. Then the lights of the station are extinguished. Even the 'Raven' who croaks his dismal forebodings of fatality, and sells accident policies to travelers, has disappeared."

NOTES—CHAPTER 57

[1] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 6, 1878.

[2] *Pioneer Citizens' History,* 269.

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] Reed, *Atlanta,* 263.

[5] *Ibid.,* 264.

[6] Commission Book, Dept., Archives and History, Atlanta.

[7] *Atlanta Constitution,* Jan. 30, 1879.

[8] *Ibid.*

[9] *Ibid.,* Jan. 31, 1879.

[10] *Ibid.*

[11] *Ibid.,* Feb. 1, 1879.

[12] "Exploits of Atlanta's Old Guard," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* Feb. 22, 1925.

[13] *Ibid.;* Fairman, *Chronicles of the Old Guard,* 72.

[14] "Exploits of Atlanta's Old Guard," *loc. cit.*

[15] Fairman, *Chronicles of the Old Guard,* 73.

[16] Reed, *Atlanta,* 361.

[17] *Ibid.,* 364.

[18] *Ibid.,* 367; *Atlanta Constitution,* Feb. 18, 1940; Ridgely Torrence, *The Story of John Hope* (New York, 1948), 149, 326.

[19] Site of present Trust Co. of Ga., garage.

[20] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 350-352.

[21] Located at 46 Ivy Street, west side, between what later became Edgewood Avenue and Wheat Street (Auburn Ave.).

[22] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 353; Gregory Murphy, "The Controversy Between Dr. T. S. Powell and the Faculty of Atlanta Medical College," *A.H.B.* XXIV (Sept., 1940), 249.

[23] Murphy, "The Controversy," *loc. cit.*

[24] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 353-354; Murphy, "The Controversy," *loc. cit.,* 252.

[25] Edgarta Horton, "Builders of the First Presbyterian Church," *Atlanta Journal Magazine,* 1923; "The First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Dedicatory Services, Apr. 6, 1919" (Atlanta, 1919).

[26] Martin, *Atlanta,* II, 407; *City Directory,* 1880.

[27] Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *loc. cit.,* 201.

[28] Angier Springs were located a short distance south of Ponce de Leon Springs.

[29] Wright, "Georgia Power Company," *loc. cit.,* 202-203.

[30] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 21, 1879.

[31] "Garrett's Necrology;" *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 12, 1879.

[32] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 12, 1879; *Cf.* 64 *Ga. Reports,* 374.

[33] *Atlanta Constitution,* Mar. 12, 1879.

[34] *Ibid.*

[35] *Ibid.*

[36] 64 *Ga. Reports,* 374.

[37] "Garrett's Necrology."

[38] *Atlanta Constitution,* July 27, 1879, *et seq.*

[39] *Ibid.*

[40] *Ibid.*

[41] *Ibid.*

[42] "Garrett's Necrology;" *Atlanta Constitution,* July 27, and August 12, 1879.

[43] "Garrett's Necrology."

[44] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 19, 1879.

[45] *Ibid.;* John S. Heard to Franklin M. Garrett, personal interview, Aug. 31, 1930.

[46] *Atlanta Constitution,* Dec. 19, 1879.

[47] *Ibid.,* Dec. 24, Dec. 27, 1879.

[48] Then located in the State House, Marietta and Forsyth Streets, Benjamin Conley, postmaster.